

Kansas News

Reports Released

The [Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee](#) (JJOC) issued its FY '20 [Annual Report](#). The report highlights progress made on several of the policy changes that have been initiated. The report includes updates on:

- The Crossover Youth Practice Model in Kansas
- Multi-agency collaboration to provide mental health and substance abuse counseling
- Work with the Department of Education to update Memoranda of Understanding between law enforcement and schools, as well as improved training for school resource officers
- Notices to Appear issued by law enforcement for youth to follow up with juvenile intake
- Use of the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) to help determine if a placement in detention is appropriate
- Immediate Intervention Programs to help divert youth from deeper involvement in the juvenile justice system
- Earned Discharge Credits for youth supervised by Court Services and Community Corrections
- The continued reduction of the number of youth placed in the Juvenile Correctional Facility
- New and additional training for staff from Office of Judicial Administration, Kansas Department of Corrections and the Kansas Department of Children and Families
- Additional grant opportunities provided locally through the Juvenile Correctional Advisory Boards of the Judicial District's

Limited Justice: An Assessment of Access to and Quality of Juvenile Defense Counsel in Kansas

A report released by the [National Juvenile Defense Center](#) looks at access and the quality of juvenile defense in Kansas. The report provides findings and recommendations of the Kansas juvenile defense system and delinquency courts. The report is the result of work undertaken by KDOC-JS and other stakeholders to address issues identified by the [Juvenile Justice Workgroup](#) in 2015 and in the [Kansas Juvenile Justice Reform Act \(Senate Bill 367\)](#).

To access the full report, [click here](#)

To access a summary of the report, [click here](#)

To access the press release for the report, [click here](#)

Attorneys for Juvenile Offenders in Kansas Lack Proper Training, Support, Report Finds

A new report by the [National Juvenile Defender Center](#) shows that most juvenile defense attorneys in Kansas are not properly trained to represent their clients. As a result, many youth don't receive the due process they are guaranteed under the Constitution. While Kansas provides an attorney to stand beside most juveniles facing charges in delinquency court, it's often not enough, according to [an assessment published Wednesday](#) by the non-profit based out of Washington D.C. Juvenile defense attorneys often "do not provide the zealous, expressed-interest representation their young clients need and the Constitution requires," according to the [Read more](#)

In Kansas, Kids Who Face Criminal Charges Aren't Getting the Defense They Need, Report Says

The National Juvenile Defender Center says Kansas needs a statewide system for training & assigning defense attorneys to work with children.

Most of Wichita attorney Trent Wetta's clients fall between the ages of 14 and 17, but they can be as young as 10. They typically face misdemeanor charges, such as possession of marijuana or theft, or minor felony charges, like burglary. It can prove tricky guiding a child through a criminal justice system made by adults with law degrees. [Read more](#)

KDOC Signs Contract for Web-based MAYSI-2

Kansas Department of Corrections has signed a contract with ORBIS Partners LLC to provide the web-based version of the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument – Version 2 (MAYSI-2) to juvenile intakes in Kansas. The original MAYSI-2, developed by the National Youth Screening and Assessment Partners (NYSAP), is a validated screening instrument that is designed to help juvenile justice service providers identify youth, ages 12-17, who may have special mental health needs. It is the most widely used mental health assessment tool for youth in the United States. Mental health screenings have become standard practice nationwide and are provided at juvenile intakes in all 31 judicial districts across the state of Kansas.

KDOC purchased the MAYSI-2 through NYSAP in 2016. Web MAYSI-2, built by Orbis in collaboration with NYSAP, is a cloud-based version of the original instrument that is an updated, modernized and streamlined platform which allows for the gathering of aggregate data on MAYSI-2 screenings statewide. The Web MAYSI-2 is paid for out of the evidence-based programs account which is overseen by the [Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee](#). If you have any questions please feel free to contact Jim Johnson by email at james.johnson2@ks.gov.

The Juvenile Justice Corner

**Hope Cooper, Deputy Secretary
DOC - Juvenile and Adult Community-Based Services**

As we close out 2020, the sentiment may be "good riddance" or it may be something like "that year was a mess". Although those thoughts may be correct, even under representative of what you have experienced, the year does bring some positive changes if we look for them. Each month you all receive these newsletters with updates and changes that are occurring in the juvenile justice field. These are all things to celebrate. Despite a virus that, at times, felt like it would bring us to our knees (and maybe did) great work continued. The year 2020 provided for creative thought, for open minds, for dedication and persistence. I want to extend my deepest gratitude for everyone that worked tirelessly for each other and for the youth and their families in the State of Kansas. I am in awe of the passion that exudes from those in this field. As I close out 2020, that is what I will choose to remember.

Kansas News

Parent Project® Facilitator Trainings Held

During the first two weeks of December the Kansas Department of Corrections-Juvenile Services (KDOC-JS) hosted the fourth session of [facilitator trainings](#) for the [Parent Project®](#) held in Kansas. A total of 60 professionals from the juvenile justice system were in attendance and were certified as [Parent Project®](#) instructors. Among those in attendance were staff from community corrections, juvenile detention, juvenile intake and assessment, juvenile justice programming/management, immediate intervention, school personnel, mental health support, court services, law enforcement, DCF contract agencies, churches and other community-based organizations. This was the first [Parent Project®](#) held virtually.

Governor Appoints Members to KAG

On December 16th Governor Laura Kelly announced appointees to the [Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) [Read more](#)

Kelly Taps Topeka High Senior for State Juvenile Justice Group

[Read more](#)

Learning about Juvenile Justice in Kansas

[Kansas Juvenile Officers Association Learning Session](#)

[Watch video](#)

[Juvenile Justice Learning Session](#)

[Watch video](#)

2021 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training

Zoom	Wednesday	January 13 th , 2021
Zoom	Thursday	February 11 th , 2021
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. Due to COVID-19 precautions, KDAI trainings are being provided via the zoom platform. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Steve Bonner at steven.bonner@ks.gov

The Crossover Youth Practice Model - Update

**Ashley Brown, CYPM Coordinator
Kansas Department of Children and Families**

The Statewide Policy Team has three active workgroups. The Educational Stability workgroup will focus on continuity and stability of education for youth who move from placement to placement to ensure they do not lose credits when they have to change schools. The Prevention workgroup will focus on an identified population of youth and strive to prevent them from crossing over; from Juvenile Justice to Child Welfare or Child Welfare to Juvenile Justice. The first focus point will be around communication and not a population group. Communication amongst all agencies involved in a youth's case is a key factor. The Information Sharing workgroup will focus on information sharing (what already exists and what needs to be created). They are currently working on creating a couple of sharable documents. One that outlines the different pathways a youth might take to becoming a crossover youth, both on the Child Welfare side and Juvenile Justice side. Another sharable document in the works is a document that will have a list of Kansas statutes denoting existing information sharing regulations.

Shawnee county has decided to have two different teams; a leadership team and an Implementation team. The members of the leadership team are in the process of creating the implementation team members list. Georgetown University and the CYMP Coordinators are assisting the county with a systems assessment. This assessment will assist in developing an implementation plan for the county. The county is discussing participants for listening sessions. A listening session invites youth and families that have had involvement with the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems to talk

Continued next page . . .

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Los Angeles and New Jersey Steer Youth Away from Justice System

New policies enacted in Los Angeles County and the state of New Jersey are the latest signs of growing momentum for a dramatic shift in our nation's juvenile justice systems. The goal is to allow schools and communities — not the courts — to address most instances of youth misconduct, and to reimagine how to support and supervise the smaller number of young people who do enter the court system. On Nov. 24, 2020, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a [groundbreaking plan](#) to phase out the county probation department's juvenile division, continuing a [Read more . . .](#)

Lifting Georgia's Criminally Accused Out of Poverty

For its first two decades, [Georgia Justice Project \(GJP\)](#) provided low-income individuals in Atlanta with high-quality, free legal services, primarily in two areas: criminal defense that includes social services and resources to help formerly incarcerated people return to their communities. In 2008, the organization added a significant new capability: policy advocacy to address the destructive consequences of an arrest or conviction, including barriers to housing and employment. Today, the organization is one of the state's most influential voices on behalf of people accused of a crime and their families, working with the state legislature to minimize the economic impact of a criminal record. [Read more . . .](#)

What Is Juvenile Justice?

Juvenile justice in the United States is a collection of state and local court-based systems whose purpose is to respond to young people who come into contact with law enforcement and are accused of breaking the law. As part of the legal process, juvenile courts hear those cases to determine whether the youth violated the law and, if so, decide on a proper response. State and local juvenile corrections agencies (including probation and residential custody) manage the rehabilitative programs, services and sanctions provided to [help young people](#) stop further delinquent behavior. [Read more . . .](#)

What Is a Social Enterprise?

Social enterprises are revenue-generating businesses with a mission. Whether it's providing clean water, expanding health care services, strengthening renewable energy options or — similar to those the Annie E. Casey Foundation invests in — helping individuals entering or returning to the workforce, social enterprises use their profits and business practices to address a societal need. Though these enterprises can take many forms across many industries, they ultimately exist to serve the common good. [Read more . . .](#)

National Youth Employment Coalition – Toolkit

Job Training for Youth with Justice Involvement

Crossing paths with the juvenile justice system kicks off a complex web of bias, racial discrimination and structural barriers that can prevent young people from living healthy and productive lives.

One powerful difference maker? Workforce development, and - in particular - approaches that blend education with occupational training while also offering support services, paid work experiences and opportunities to connect with caring adults.

Against this backdrop, the National Youth Employment Coalition, with support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, has created a tool kit to foster meaningful collaboration between professionals in the federal workforce development system and the juvenile justice system.

This resource offers readers: 1) evidence-based practices in youth workforce development; 2) an overview of the workforce system funded under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; 3) advice on improving WIOA-funded services for youth with justice involvement at the local level; and 4) guidance on forming effective interagency partnerships.

After using this tool kit, practitioners in both sectors will have the information and steps they need to partner effectively, use public dollars efficiently and help justice-involved youth pursue both economic self-sufficiency and a brighter future. [See toolkit . . .](#)

National News

L.A. County Takes First Step in 'Care-First' Youth Justice Reform

A five-year plan to transform juvenile justice systems in **Los Angeles County** will be based on a "care-first" model, [the Los Angeles Times reports](#). The plan, presented this week in a motion by the County Board of Supervisors, emphasizes rehabilitation and support by placing youth in "home-like settings," and will create a new Department of Youth Development. The settings would include specific treatment and support services to help better treat youth who were convicted of crimes to return to society after incarceration. [Read more . . .](#)

Crossover Youth Practice Model continued from page 1

about their experiences with the systems (positive and negative). Youth and families will be compensated for their participation in the listening sessions as well as their participation on the implementation team.

Montgomery County has a combined Leadership and Implementation team. The systems assessment had been completed. The next step will be developing an implementation plan based on the results of the systems assessment. At the next scheduled meeting, December 17, discussions will begin regarding listening sessions. The county is working on identifying participants. Youth and families will also be included on the combined leadership/implementation team once a plan is developed. Youth and families will be compensated for their participation in the listening sessions as well as their participation on the implementation team.

Sedgwick county is working on reinvigorating the CYMP model. The county started the work back in 2015 but had delayed progress. With the current new practices and staff in place, the county is regaining momentum. Currently, a systems assessment is being worked on. Once that is completed an implementation plan will be created.

National News – Dual Involved Youth

Distinguishing the California juvenile "delinquency" and "dependency" court systems

Juvenile "delinquency" and juvenile "dependency" are two separate court systems in California. The juvenile delinquency system is concerned with minors charged with crimes. The juvenile dependency system focuses on minors who have been abused, abandoned or neglected. The general rule is that minors must be classified within one system or the other, but not both at the same time. However, in some cases a minor can fall within both jurisdictions. These minors have "dual status." [Read more . . .](#)

National Institute of Justice

Tracking Sex Offenders: Federal Law, Resources Have Led to Marked Improvement of State Registries, But More Work Is Needed

Communities want to know when convicted sex offenders are living in their midst. For a quarter century, federal law has guaranteed communities the right to know. In 1994, Congress mandated that all states develop sex offender registries. Two years later, Megan's Law provided that sex offender information must be made public.

In the ensuing decade, sex offender laws and registries sprang up in all states — but not always with the full impact intended. In some instances, technology deficits limited information sharing across registries and jurisdictions, a synergy vital to tracking mobile offenders. Resource shortfalls strained states' abilities to keep up with the growing volume of offenders required to register their presence, and with new types of identifying data for offenders. Jurisdictional inconsistency left a patchwork of programs, evidencing a need for national norms. [Read more . . .](#)

SAMHSA

About Criminal and Juvenile Justice

It is estimated that [18% of the general population](#) has a mental illness. However, an estimated [44% of those in jail and 37% of those in prison](#) have a mental illness (PDF | 670 KB). It is estimated that [11% of 18-25 year olds, and 6% of those over 25 years old](#) have a substance use disorder. It is estimated that [63% of people in jail and 58% in prison](#) have a substance use disorder (PDF | 670 KB). People with these disorders have challenges in getting appropriate treatment and often [incarceration exacerbates their symptoms](#). This can lead to [individuals staying incarcerated longer](#) than those without behavioral health concerns. [Read more . . .](#)

National News

Grewal Issues Directive to Further Transform State's Juvenile Justice System

On Dec. 3, Attorney General Gurbir Grewal issued a statewide directive to law enforcement establishing policies, practices and procedures to further juvenile justice reform by diverting juveniles away from law enforcement and toward social or familial support whenever possible consistent with public safety and welfare. Over the past two decades, **New Jersey** has emerged as a national leader in juvenile justice reform, according to a press release from the attorney general's office. Since 2003, the year before New Jersey implemented the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, the total number of juveniles in detention per year has dropped by 80 percent, from about 12,000 to fewer than 2,500, with youth of color accounting for almost 90 percent of the decline. [Read more . . .](#)