KS Juvenile Justice Web-Line

March-April 2022

Staffing Changes at KDOC

In February, Papa Sall joined the Grants and Quality Assurance Unit at the Kansas Department of Corrections as the new Juvenile Quality Assurance Program Consultant. Papa will be coordinating juvenile program reviews and site visits at Judicial Districts across the state.

Papa was with the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex (KJCC) here he worked in the Juvenile Corrections Officer (JCO) I, JCO II (Sergeant/Supervisor/Shift Manager) and most recently as a Corrections Counselor II. In addition, Papa held the title of Assistant Commandant of the Crisis Response Team. Papa has earned a Bachelor and Master of Social Work degrees from Washburn University, an Associate’s degree from Allen Community College, an Associate’s in Criminal Justice (Colorado Technical University) and a Baccalaureate in Accounting, Applied Mathematics and Economics (Maurice Delafose in Senegal, West Africa).

Papa is originally from West Africa (Senegal) and has been living in the U.S. since 2001. Papa stated “I am looking toward meeting and interacting with staff from the different judicial districts and hope that I could offer something of substance at every interaction”. Papa can be reached by email at papa.sall@ks.gov or by phone at (785) 260-4936.

KJC Names New Deputy Superintendent

In February Candice Byrd was selected as the Deputy Superintendent of the Kansas Juvenile Corrections Complex (KJCC). Byrd had returned to KJCC from serving as Community Supporters Manager for KDOC-JS since September of 2019. Previously at KJCC, Candice was the Program Director for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and a Juvenile Corrections Officer. Candice said: “I am excited to return to KJCC where my career in corrections began. It is truly an honor to be part of the team and look forward to what great things we will continue to do now and in the future.”

Update from Regional Program Consultants

The Regional Contact Team (RCT) has been working with local Juvenile Community Supervision Officers (i.e., Intensive Supervision Probation and Case Management staff) to provide feedback for reviews of Violations of Levels. The RCT has also been assisting the districts as they prepare their Comprehensive Plan Grant Fund (Comp Plan) submissions and will be assisting in the Comp Plan review starting in May. The RCT will be providing a virtual Juvenile Justice Basics (JJB) class on Tuesday May 24, 2022. An official announcement and invitation to sign-up for the JJB class will be coming out soon. Finally, the RCT has created and just sent out the first regional contact bulletin which provides a training refresher, training announcements and tips for navigating Athena – this will be a monthly publication sent directly to staff across the state.

LPA Audit Update: Reviewing Agencies’ Implementation of Selected Performance Audit Recommendations

“As of February 2022, KDOC has implemented all 3 recommendations.”

Mentorship Updates – My Story

Editor’s Note – Stacey Capps was one of the first Mentors in the Mentoring-4-Success program at KJCC. Stacey shares her story about her experience with mentoring a youth at KJCC and the relationship that was established in that process.

I will forever be grateful to Ken Davis and the Mentoring 4 Success team at KJCC for introducing Laura to my family and to live. Laura and I were first matched up in December 2016. From the first time I met Laura, I knew this young lady would go on to do amazing things with her life. During all of our visits, did Laura portray herself as a victim. She took full accountability for the actions that landed her at KJCC. This alone was admirable, and something not usually seen in teenagers. Laura obtained her high school diploma while at KJCC along with having a job and maintaining Honors Level 4. She also continued studying for her’s license in her free time and was accepted into Kansas City Community College beginning August 2017. Laura would be the first person in her family to attend college and she was extremely proud of this accomplishment. I went with Laura and her mom to tour the campus and was honored she wanted me there to be part of her journey.

Laura and I continued to meet on a regular basis while she attended school and worked. During this time, Laura invited me to be part of a family wedding and to meet her extended family. Needless to say, I was extremely touched she wanted to include me in this special family event. I was also honored when Laura called me to tell me she was going to be a mother and the baby would be born sometime in early 2019. I knew she would make a wonderful mother and I was right. She is an amazing mother, and her daughter is now three years old. During her pregnancy we tried to meet monthly and continued meeting even through Laura’s pregnancy was terminated in Texas in the Fall of 2019. Even being 16 hours away did not end out bond. Laura and I communicate regularly, and she keeps me updated on her life. I look forward to many more years learning about Laura and her family. She went back to school this past year and is taking classes to become a pharmacy tech.

It is difficult to find the right words and explain how much Laura means to me and how proud I am of all she has accomplished. She is truly a gift in my life, and I am forever thankful that Ken saw fit to match us up almost 5 1/2 years ago. Laura is an inspiration to all young ladies trying to figure out their life and move forward in a positive manner.

The Crossover Youth Practice Model - Update

Aleah Bown, CYPM Coordinator

Kansas Department of Children and Families

Highlighting Shawnee County CYPM

Shawnee Cunty has been working hard and is dedicated to implementing CYPM across the county. The team members are passionate about bettering the lives of crossover youth and their families.

When the county’s work began, they formed two teams; a Leadership Team (LT) and an Implementation Team (IT). The Leadership Team’s role is to provide direction and support for the model. The Implementation Team members are charged with the development and implementation of the model. The IT meets via a virtual platform every month. The LT joins the virtual meetings every other month or as needed.

Two sub-workgroups were formed: Information Sharing/Protocols and Inventory. The purpose of the Information Sharing/Protocols workgroup is to review current processes for when a youth crosses over between systems and then identify current processes to support and which process changes are needed and feasible to make.

The workshop has been discussing the pathway a youth in foster care takes when he or she is arrested.

The Juvenile Justice Corner

Jim Sullivan, Program Consultant

DOC – Juvenile Community Based Services

The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, JDAI, is a juvenile justice system reform process that enables jurisdictions to safely reduce reliance on detention while also stimulating other improvements that strengthen system results, increase fairness and using public resources more effectively. The Annie Casey Foundation began JDAI as a pilot project in five jurisdictions in the 1990s. Those pilot sites included: Multnomah County (Portland), Oregon; Sacramento, California; Cook County (Chicago), Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and New York City. Over 25 years later, JDAI is the most widely replicated juvenile justice initiative; operating in 39 states, three tribal jurisdictions and across the country.

JDAI – A Re-Introduction

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In 2011, the state of Kansas began partnering with the Annie Casey Foundation to look at possible reforms to our juvenile justice system. While there have been roadblocks along the way, Kansas has accomplished much in reforming the juvenile justice system and continues this work today. Tune in to future publications of the web-line as we will dive into each of the core strategies and also provide updates on the work that Kansas is doing in JDAI.

Continued next page...
Shelter & Care for Wichita’s Homeless Youth in Crisis

Homelessness doesn’t just impact adults. There are children in Wichita, currently homeless for a variety of reasons. For the fiscal year of 2021, Wichita Children’s Home helped over 1,800 youth, and 85% of those were unaccompanied. The assistance provided spread across 41 Kansas counties, ranging in age from newborns up to age 24. Thirty-five were human trafficking victims, a 140% increase over the last year. In “Wichita we take for granted our happy homes and our happy families, and it’s easy to not understand that there are situations going on around us where people are in crisis,” said Olivia Streiman. Read more and watch video.

New Shawnee County Program Dismisses Minors’ First Tobacco Charges, Here’s How

A new program will give minors a second chance before they face a trial or fines for tobacco offenses, according to the Shawnee County District Attorney. District Attorney Mike Kagay said kids and teens can participate in the new Tobacco Offenders Program as a way of eliminating an existing disparity entirely. The program, made in part by Kagay and Shawnee County District Judge Darian Dernovish, has a Read more.

2022 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training

Zoom

- Thursday, May 19th, 2022
- Tuesday, June 21st, 2022

And 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 precautions, KDAI trainings are being presented via the zoom platform. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Steve Bonner at steven.bonner@ks.gov

Juvenile Justice Basic

- Live Online – Class offered through Zoom
- Date Tuesday, May 24
- Time 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- To Enroll or for more information contact your Regional Program Consultant

Crossover Youth Practice Model continued from page 1

and taken to intake. Other pathways will also be explored such as for youth who may already be involved in probation, Intermediate Intervention Programs (IIP), or other relevant programs. Once all the pathways are discussed the group will begin developing protocols. The group is currently creating an information sharing agreement between KVC and Juvenile Intake and Assessment Services to allow for pertinent information regarding the crossover youth and/or their family to be exchanged between agencies.

The purpose of the Inventory group is to review all current screening and assessment tools used by any agency that is or could be involved with youth, to identify information-sharing opportunities and/or streamlined assessments. The group has inventoried all screening and assessment tools and is currently discussing the timing and purpose for each. During the second part of 2021, a short-term workgroup was established to plan and facilitate listening sessions. These sessions allowed crossover youth the opportunity to share thoughts about their involvement with youth-serving agencies and systems. Listening Sessions are an important part of CYPIM implementation as they provide firsthand knowledge from individuals who are or were involved in the Juvenile Justice and/or Child Welfare systems. This information is used to identify how specific processes and procedures impact the youth and family. By discovering barriers, procedures can be updated to better serve the youth and family. Three listening sessions were held for Shawnee County crossover youth. There were a total of seven youth ranging in age from 15 to 25. These conversations with the youth were insightful and the team is planning to facilitate listening sessions with parents.

In addition to utilizing the local listening sessions to obtain information, The State Policy Team’s Prevention Workgroup created a survey for statewide distribution to parents and guardians of crossover youth to gain knowledge about systems involvement from a parent’s perspective. Both pilot counties were asked to send the survey to parents of youth with current involvement in the two systems; however, few responses have been received. In hopes of increasing responses, the workgroup decided to tailor the survey with questions specific to services and processes in a smaller, geographical area. The tailored survey will be piloted in Sedgwick County. By obtaining feedback from parents through surveys and the listening sessions, SNCO will receive pertinent information to help drive positive change to serve crossover youth and their families.

To learn more about the Crossover Youth Practice Model and information regarding past and upcoming meetings of the State Policy Team click here.

New Youth Mental Health Data ‘A Cry for Help’: Study

While youth mental health was already deteriorating before the coronavirus pandemic, in the two years following the isolation, grief, and anxiety, researchers are finding that a dark wave of depression is washing over the adolescents of America alarming many because of suicide and homicide rates associated with prevalent depression, reports the Pew Charitable Trusts.

What’s behind the rise in the depression rates among children are not being treated. Read more.

For Students in Juvenile Detention, School Doesn’t Stop

The half-hour before class is one of the most important times of the day for teacher David Beaty. He picks current events to discuss with his high school students — on a recent Monday morning, the war in Ukraine and the Grand Ole Opry. For students who gather books and materials for the day, loading it all into a cart to wheel from room to room. But the most essential piece of the morning hangs on a bulletin board in the teachers’ lounge: an intake list of the teenagers brought to the Lancaster County Youth Services Center over the weekend. On this early April Monday morning, there are three new names — three kids entering the juvenile detention center, “Every single day in detention is different,” Beaty said. “There’s no Groundhog Day here.” Read more.

Report Proposes Reforms to Oklahoma’s Juvenile Justice System

Oklahoma has made significant progress in diverting children away from the justice system. Youth referrals to juvenile courts have decreased substantially over the past decade, from about 32,500 in 2011 to just over 8,000 in 2020. The decline has prompted the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs to consolidate three juvenile detention facilities into one campus. But researchers say more work must be done to make the state’s juvenile justice system equitable for all. On Monday, the Oklahoma Policy Institute released an in-depth report detailing racial disparities in youth referrals and cost burdens in juvenile justice system places on families. Read more.

The Juvenile Justice Corner continued from page 1

Needless to say, staff who work with Justice involved youth should be properly trained to effectively interact with and supervise youth in juvenile justice settings. To that end, the Kansas Department of Corrections- Juvenile Services (KDOC-JS) has partnered with the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas to offer Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Training. The training covers how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges with adolescents aged 12 to 18. The training will be held as live online sessions with two licensed mental health providers leading each session. There were 24 dates established to choose from with the first sessions starting in April and the last session scheduled in March of 2023. The first date will be required to complete the prerequisites of the day. The prerequisite work prior to the start of their session so the registration deadline is seven days before the training date you select. Each session will be limited to a maximum of 25 participants and registrations will be on a first come, first serve basis. (See a complete list of remaining sessions with openings below.)

This training will be required for all staff who work with justice involved youth to include Intensive Supervised Probation Officers, Case Management staff, Immediate Intervention Program staff and Juvenile Intake and Assessment staff. This course will satisfy the Mental Health Training Curriculum- Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ) training requirements outlined in the Community Supervision, Juvenile Intake and Assessment System and Immediate Intervention Program Standards. All existing workers will need to take this class this year. To register or if you have questions contact Megan by email at megan.bradshaw@ks.gov

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Trainings

- Monday, August 15, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Saturday, September 10, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Tuesday, September 19, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Monday, October 6, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Tuesday, October 17, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Monday, November 21, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Tuesday, November 22, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Monday, December 19, 2022
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Thursday, January 5, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Wednesday, January 12, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Tuesday, January 18, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Wednesday, February 8, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Monday, February 20, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Monday, March 6, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
- Saturday, March 25, 2023
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

NOTE – Sessions prior to August 18th have all been filled.