

Kansas News

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 conducting juvenile program reviews and site visits at Judicial Districts across the state.

Papa was with the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex (KJCC) for the past 10 years where he worked as a 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 Commander of the Crisis Response Team. Papa has earned a Bachelor and Master of Social Work degrees from Washburn University, an Associate's in Pre-Social Work (Allen Community College), an Associate's in Criminal Justice (Colorado Technical University) and a Baccalaureate in Accounting, Applied Mathematics and Economics (Maurice Delafosse 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.

KJCC Names New Deputy Superintendent

In February Candice Byrd was selected as the Deputy Superintendent of the Kansas Juvenile Corrections Complex (KJCC). Candice returns to KJCC from serving as the Community Supports Manager for KDOC-JS since September of 2019. Previously at KJCC, Candice was the Program Director, a Unit Team Manager, a Corrections Counselor II 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! I 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 Supervised 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 Plans) submissions and will be assisting in the Comp Plan reviews 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 . . ." [To access the report . . .](#)

DCF – Family First Updates

To access the January/February 2022 edition of the DCF [Family First Prevention](#) Services newsletter [Click here . . .](#)

KDOC-JS Special Projects - Update Clay McCarter, Project Manager DOC - Juvenile Community Based Services

JDAI – A Re-Introduction

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 more than 250 counties across the country. JDAI is broken down into eight core principles which include collaboration, data, eliminating disparities, objective admissions criteria, alternatives to detention, case processing reforms, special detention cases, and conditions of confinement.

In 2011, the state of Kansas began partnering with the Annie Casey Foundation to look at possible reforms to its 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.

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 Program at KJCC for introducing Laura into my life. 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 upon her release. Not once 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 started studying for her driver's license exam and explored the idea of attending college after being released. Laura took advantage of every positive opportunity afforded her 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 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 child is now three years old. During her pregnancy we tried to meet monthly and continued meeting until I moved to Texas in the Fall of 2019. Even being 16 hours away did not end our bond. Laura and I communicate regularly, and she keeps me updated on her life. I look forward to many more years hearing 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 year 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 Ashley Brown, CYPM Coordinator Kansas Department of Children and Families

Highlighting Shawnee County CYPM

Shawnee County 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 workgroup has been discussing the pathway a youth in foster care takes when he or she is arrested *Continued next page . . .*

The Juvenile Justice Corner Jim Johnson, Program Consultant DOC - Juvenile Community Based Services

According to the [Pew Research Center](#), young people "born between 1995 and 2010 are growing up in an age of increased stress and anxiety. 70% of teenagers say that anxiety and depression are significant problems among their peers". As if that was not enough, according to the [Coalition for Juvenile Justice](#), "youth involved in the juvenile justice system have mental health disorders at a disproportionate rate compared to the general population with approximately 70% of youth in juvenile detention facilities meeting the criteria of one or more mental health disorders. The most common disorders are conduct disorders, substance disorders, anxiety disorders and mood disorders. 81% of females and 66% of males meet the criteria for a mental health disorder". And according to the [National Youth Screening and Assessment Partners](#) with the Massachusetts Medical School, "many youth who enter juvenile justice facilities or are seen by intake probation workers may be experiencing significant mental and emotional states that are not indicative of mental illness but are emotional responses to recent events in their lives".

Continued next page . . .

Kansas News

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 young people find shelter and care. The assistance spanned 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. “I think 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 Stineman, [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 Cessation Program as a way to have their charges dismissed entirely. The program, made in part by Kagay and Shawnee County District Judge Darian Dernovich, has a [Read more](#)

2022 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training

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

Juvenile Justice Basics

Location – Class is online, offered through Zoom
 Date Tuesday May 24 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 workgroup will begin developing protocols. The workgroup is 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 workgroup 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 streamlining assessment processes. The workgroup has inventoried all screening and assessment tools and is currently discussing the timing and purpose for each.

During the latter 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 CYPM 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 Shawnee County. By obtaining feedback from youth and 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](#)

National News

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 worse, many of these high 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 Beatty. He picks current events to discuss with his high school students — on a recent Monday morning, it’s the war in Ukraine and the Grammy Awards. He gathers 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,” Beatty 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 dropped substantially over the past decade, from 18,000 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 the 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. This 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. Participants will be required to complete some prerequisite work prior to the start of their session so the registration deadline is seven days before the training date you select. Each session is 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 class 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
Thursday, October 6, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday, October 17, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Thursday, November 3, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday, November 21, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Saturday, December 3, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday, December 19, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Thursday, January 5, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Tuesday, January 17, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Wednesday, February 8, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday, February 20, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Monday, March 6, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Saturday, March 25, 2022	9:00 am – 3:30 pm

NOTE – Sessions prior to August 15th have all been filled.