



# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

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## PENNSYLVANIA'S COMMITMENT TO BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUVENILE JUSTICE

*Submitted by Russ Carlino, Chair, BARJ Committee,  
Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers*

In the early 1990s, violent crime rates surged across the United States, reaching historic highs among both adult and juvenile offenders. The crack cocaine epidemic, widespread gun violence, and rampant gang activity created a national crisis that dominated headlines and stirred public concern. Juvenile crime, in particular, became a central focus of public discourse and policymaking. In response, many states took swift and often punitive measures—lowering the age of criminal responsibility and prosecuting 16- and 17-year-olds as adults. Some states even contemplated dismantling their juvenile justice systems altogether. In contrast, Pennsylvania charted a more thoughtful and future-focused path.



With the enactment of Act 33 of 1995 on March 18, 1996, Pennsylvania adopted a new mission for its juvenile justice system, mandating “balanced attention to the protection of the community, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed, and the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community.” Pennsylvania thus became the first state to incorporate balanced and restorative justice (BARJ) into the core of its juvenile justice mission.

Act 33 also redefined what constituted a “delinquent act,” excluding any juvenile aged 15 or older who committed a felony with a deadly weapon. The law revised the purpose clause of the Juvenile Act to prioritize not only the best interests of the youth, but also those of the victims and the community.

### A National Model

Jim Anderson, former Director, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC), wrote optimistically in 1999 that “Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system is uniquely situated as a national model due to the cumulative effect of rational law, effective leadership, and a shared vision and sense of purpose by the individuals who work in this system.”

To fully understand and implement the mission, the system sought to explain each of its three core goals—community protection, accountability, and competency development—in practical terms. All 67 counties

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needed a clear understanding of exactly what the system was seeking to accomplish. With support from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), the National Center for Juvenile Justice led this foundational work, including stakeholder focus groups and research reviews. This effort culminated in the creation of three influential white papers, thanks in large part to the late Pat Torbet, whose contributions were instrumental.

## The Three White Papers

### Competency Development (2005)

[The first white paper](#) addressed the least understood goal—competency development—which it defined as the process of helping youth acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become law-abiding, connected, and productive community members. Five key skill domains were identified: Pro-Social, Moral Reasoning, Academic, Workforce Development, and Independent Living. Juvenile justice professionals were encouraged to focus interventions on the skills most closely associated with each youth’s offending behavior.

### Accountability (2006)

[The second white paper](#) defined accountability as the process of helping youth understand and acknowledge the harm caused by their actions, both to victims and communities, and take responsibility. The juvenile justice system’s role is two-fold: holding youth accountable while respecting and protecting victims’ rights. Tools and activities included victim impact statements, victim awareness curriculum, restitution, community service, and victim-offender mediation.

### Community Protection (2008)

[The final white paper](#) defined community protection as the process of contributing to safe communities through prevention, supervision, and control. It emphasized timely case processing, availability of diversion and placement options, and importance of reducing recidivism. The approach involved assessing each youth’s risk of reoffending, managing short-term risks, and addressing long-term criminogenic factors.

As Pat Torbet noted, these papers served to “plant our flag” on the system’s goals—not as the final word, but as a firm starting point for future evolution.

## Models for Change and System Innovation

While the three white papers were being published, Pennsylvania became the first of four states selected for the MacArthur Foundation’s Models for Change Initiative (2005–2010). The initiative focused on three key areas:

1. Strengthening aftercare services
2. Reducing disproportionate minority contact
3. Improving coordination of mental health services

The initiative provided the impetus for a number of tools, practices, and programs that have become essential components of our system, including the Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (PaDRAI), the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument – Version 2 (MAYSI-2), and Pennsylvania Academic, Career and Technical Training (PACTT) Alliance.

Pennsylvania was chosen in part because of the strong likelihood of success, thanks to its established BARJ foundation. Indeed, much of the initiative’s success is attributable to the fact that its strategies were aligned with BARJ principles.

## The Next Leap: JJSES

By 2010, after more than a decade of progress, Pennsylvania's juvenile justice leaders recognized the need to take another significant step. Decades of research had shown that when applied with fidelity, evidence-based practices (EBPs) could reduce recidivism. At a strategic planning meeting in June 2010, leaders from the JCJC, PCCD, and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers launched the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

In 2012, the system released a guiding document: *Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy: Achieving Our Balanced and Restorative Justice Mission Through Evidence-Based Policy and Practice*. This monograph outlined the system's plan to embed EBPs at every stage, from intake to case closure.

Recognizing its importance, the Pennsylvania Legislature amended the Juvenile Act in 2012, requiring the system to pursue BARJ goals by employing EBPs "whenever possible."

## BARJ and JJSES: A Unified Vision

As the system embraced JJSES, some questioned whether the BARJ mission was being replaced. In response, a second monograph was published in 2015: *Advancing Balanced and Restorative Justice through Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy*. It reaffirmed that JJSES was not a shift away from BARJ, but rather the method by which BARJ goals would be achieved. As the monograph's foreword explained: "There is no doubt that the JJSES has produced a seismic shift in how we conduct business in Pennsylvania. Our sights remain firmly fixed on the BARJ goals, but our path forward has been forever altered by the JJSES."

The monograph examined the nexus between BARJ and the JJSES at ten key decision points in the juvenile justice system: prevention, arrest/referral, secure detention/alternatives to detention, intake, predisposition investigation, probation supervision, community-based services, residential placement, aftercare, and case closing. At each key decision point, juvenile justice professionals must consider JJSES practices that advance the goals of BARJ.

Next month's *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice* newsletter will examine the outcomes of these efforts to fully implement BARJ and JJSES in Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

### JJSES Statement of Purpose:

"We dedicate ourselves to working in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by:

- Employing evidence-based practices with fidelity at every stage of the juvenile justice process;
- Collecting and analyzing data on these efforts; and
- Using that knowledge to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services, and programs."

### DID YOU KNOW...

The goal of competency development ensures youth become more productive and responsible community members by connecting them to skill-building activities, fostering relationships with law-abiding adults, and encouraging community contributions. Addressing criminogenic needs and dynamic risk factors linked to reoffending is crucial for effective intervention and service matching.

# 2025 JUVENILE JUSTICE ACADEMY

Juvenile court judges from across the Commonwealth gathered at the Hilton Harrisburg from May 18–20 for the 2025 Juvenile Justice Academy, a dynamic, three-day professional development event designed to deepen understanding, inspire innovation, and reinforce best practices in juvenile justice.

The event opened on Sunday evening with registration, a lively reception, and a dinner that set the tone for an engaging and inspiring event. Attendees were officially welcomed during the opening session, which featured a powerful presentation by Hon. John Cleland, Senior Judge, (pictured to the right) on “What It Means to Be a Juvenile Court Judge,” reminding all in attendance of the impact, responsibility, and opportunity inherent in this critical role.



Monday was dedicated to deep learning and hands-on practice. Following opening remarks by the Hon. Stephen P.B. Minor, President Judge, Potter County, and Chair, Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission (JCJC), alongside Andrea Tuominen, Pennsylvania Court Administrator, Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), the morning session featured expert-led discussions by Dr. Keith Cruise (pictured below), Professor of Psychology, Fordham University, on evidence-

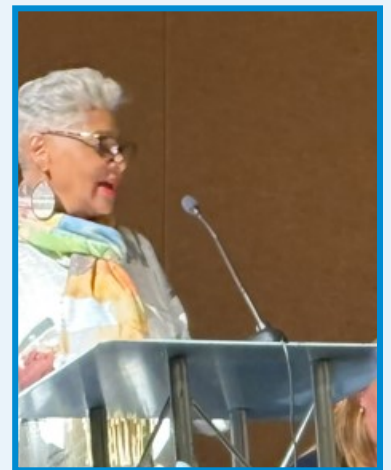


-based practices, including the risk-need-responsivity model, structured decision-making, and evidence-based informed intake processes—equipping participants with strategies to guide smarter, more consistent decisions in juvenile court systems.

In the afternoon, the judges explored case planning and practical applications of evidence-based intake practices, followed by an interactive case study exercise that encouraged collaboration and real-world problem-solving. The day concluded with a unique interactive team activity led by the Hon. Eleanor Bush, Juvenile Court Judge, Allegheny County, and a deeply moving evening session, “A Conversation with Lived Experience in the Juvenile Justice System.” This panel conversation, facilitated by Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark, Senior Judge, (pictured below) with youth currently involved in Pennsylvania’s

juvenile justice system, brought heart and humanity to the policies and practices discussed throughout the day.

On Tuesday, the academy wrapped up with a forward-looking morning session led by Laval Miller-Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Office of Children, Youth, and Families, who discussed funding opportunities and the importance of innovative and regional-based approaches. A facilitated discussion led by the Hon. Royce Morris, Juvenile Court Judge, Dauphin County, and member, JCJC, gave attendees the opportunity to share ideas, build relationships, and reflect on lessons learned. The event concluded with remarks of appreciation and encouragement by Judge Minor and Hon. David Workman, Senior Judge, followed by a closing lunch.



The 2025 Juvenile Justice Academy served as a powerful reminder that through continuous learning, meaningful connection, and a shared commitment to evidence-based practices, we can strengthen our systems and better serve the youth and families who depend on them.

The JCJC and the AOPC express their appreciation to all presenters, contributors, and behind-the-scenes supporters who made the event a success.

# MYTH



VS.

# FACT



The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission continues its monthly series, "Myth vs. Fact," which addresses common misconceptions about the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system. Using a combination of Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System data and scholarly research conducted by the field more broadly, this series will provide data-driven facts on all topics juvenile justice.

In recognition of May being Mental Health Awareness Month and National Trauma Awareness Month, this edition highlights the importance of screening justice-involved youth to identify those in need of behavioral health or trauma-related assessments and services.

## MYTH

Juvenile justice professionals do not need to utilize behavioral health or trauma screening tools. Rather, they can rely on the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory™ (YLS) and professional judgment to identify these needs in justice-involved youth.

## FACT

Many justice-involved youth experience underlying behavioral health concerns or trauma that juvenile justice professionals may overlook or misinterpret and the YLS is not designed to detect. To address these concerns effectively, juvenile probation departments should consistently use screening tools, such as the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument – Version 2 (MAYSI-2) and Child Trauma Screen (CTS), along with the YLS, as part of an evidence-based informed intake process (Leamy & Keim, 2025).

Timely identification of justice-involved youth who require behavioral health or trauma-related assessments and services is an essential component of informed decision-making. Relying solely on professional judgment or verbal disclosure from youth can hinder effective responses. Standardized, validated screening tools help ensure that youth with significant needs in these areas are accurately identified early in the process.

The MAYSI-2 and CTS are brief, validated tools that require minimal training and no clinical credentials. They quickly screen out youth who likely do not have behavioral health or trauma risks while identifying those who may warrant further evaluation. These tools bring consistency and accuracy to the process and help reduce racial and other biases. Not only do they promote fundamental fairness, but they also guide effective response or intervention planning (Cruise, 2025).

Pennsylvania's juvenile probation departments use the YLS to assess youth recidivism risk and criminogenic needs. However, behavioral health and trauma concerns are not considered criminogenic needs and are not uniformly considered when calculating a youth's likelihood of reoffending. The YLS does include a responsivity section that references behavioral health and trauma, but this portion of the assessment is not required and is only meant to supplement the official assessment results.

To address this gap, departments are encouraged to administer the MAYSI-2 and CTS as well, helping to raise awareness of potential behavioral health and trauma concerns that merit additional follow-up.

In addition, behavioral health and trauma symptoms often exacerbate dynamic criminogenic risk factors and can interfere with a youth's ability to benefit from interventions targeting offending behavior. Research shows that addressing both mental health and criminogenic needs concurrently leads to significantly greater reductions in recidivism rather than only addressing one type of need (Cruise, 2025).

In summary, by integrating behavioral health and trauma screening tools alongside the YLS and professional judgment, juvenile justice professionals can make informed decisions that improve youth outcomes and ensure equity.

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#### References

Cruise, K. R. (2025, May 18-20). *Evidence-Based Practices: The Key to Improved Decision Making* [Presentation]. Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Academy, Harrisburg, PA.

Leamy, J. & Keim, W. (2025, April 22-23). *Informed Decision-Making Through Behavioral Health Screening and Risk Assessment in Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System* [Conference presentation]. Criminal Justice Advisory Board Conference, State College, PA.

<https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/jcjc/documents/publications/evidence-based-case-management/behavioral%20health%20services%20guide.pdf>.



## DAUPHIN COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT TRAVELS “AROUND THE WORLD”

On April 30, 2025, the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Department (DCJPD) hosted its first Around the World community outreach event. The three-hour event took the form of a resource fair and served as a training booster for DCJPD staff. At the staff's convenience, they attended the event during a preselected 50-minute time slot. During this time, staff engaged with and obtained information from the Muslim, Autism, and LGBTQIA+ communities, as well as Asian Refugee United, Bhutanese Community of Harrisburg, Latino Hispanic Community Center, and Grandparents Involved from the Start. Each represented group hosted a decorated table of paraphernalia and resources. These groups previously offered the department some type of educational opportunity through either lunch and learn, staff meeting presentation, or other training. Due to the elapsed time since some of the groups' offerings, this event served as a booster or reminder of their presence in the community and their available resources for the youth and families that the DCJPD serves.

To ensure a friendly “trip around the world” and pleasant experience, staff were greeted by the DCJPD Community Outreach Coordinator and Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Team Co-Chair. Engagement among staff and group representatives was promoted using passports that included the logo of each group. Staff were responsible for taking their passports to each table, engaging with group representatives, and then obtaining their signatures directly on the community logo before visiting the next table. At the event's conclusion, staff presented their signed passports to the DCJPD designees to earn their training hours.

While our Around the World event was successful, it was also meaningful, purposeful, and enjoyable. This event was another innovative way to display the DCJPD's community outreach efforts as we bridged the gap between our department and the community. Most importantly, this event contributed to an increase in the staff's cultural competencies, which allows for a greater level of awareness and sensitivity to be had for the youth and families we are committed to serving.

If you are interested in learning more about this event, please contact Tanessa Moten, Community Outreach Coordinator, Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Department, at [tmoten@dauphincounty.gov](mailto:tmoten@dauphincounty.gov).

# 2025 James E. Anderson PENNSYLVANIA Conference on Juvenile Justice



## Youth Award Nominations Now Being Accepted

For the following categories:  
**Creative Expression Contest**  
**Outstanding Achievement Award**

This year's theme:  
**"Healing My Past to Impact Our Future"**



### How to Nominate:

1. Go to [www.pa.gov/agencies/jcjc](http://www.pa.gov/agencies/jcjc)
2. Select "Programs" then "Annual Conference"
3. Scroll down and select the award category
4. Fill Out the Nomination Form
5. Submit!

**DEADLINE:**

**JULY 28, 2025**

For questions, contact Angel Stewart at [angstewart@pa.gov](mailto:angstewart@pa.gov) or  
Keysla Rodriguez at [keyrodrigu@pa.gov](mailto:keyrodrigu@pa.gov).

### SUPER BOWL CHAMPION AJ BROWN INSPIRES YOUTH DURING SPECIAL VISIT WITH DELAWARE COUNTY JUVENILE COURT & PROBATION SERVICES

*Submitted by Danielle DiMatteo, Director, Delaware County Juvenile Court & Probation Services*

This month, 13 young men in Chester City experienced a life-changing moment when Super Bowl Champion AJ Brown made a special visit to speak with them in a mentoring session. The visit resulted from months of coordination led by Tiffany Donahue, juvenile court probation officer. Tiffany initially contacted the AJ Brown Foundation after learning about its mentorship work in the Philadelphia area. She believed the foundation's mission—*"creating a pathway for success that fosters resilience, confidence, and a brighter future for youth"*—aligned perfectly with the challenges and aspirations of local youth. Tiffany was confident AJ's story and message could resonate with them and provide hope.

AJ Brown's heartfelt talk included personal stories, hard-earned lessons, and practical advice. His honest, down-to-earth approach quickly established trust and rapport with the youth, who eagerly asked questions and engaged deeply in the discussion. The small, quiet setting was intentional—the workshop provided meaningful, one-on-one connections.



### CELEBRATING FAYETTE COUNTY'S COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

The Crime Victims' Center of Fayette County was established in 1975, serving more than 32,000 victims since its inception. Their first Victim of Juvenile Offenders Coordinator was hired in 2000. Since its creation, this position has purposefully been located in the Fayette County Juvenile Probation Office in order to foster a strong collaborative connection between the Center and juvenile probation. The Crime Victims' Center provides a 24-hour crisis hotline, family support, parenting classes, victim's compensation, medical and legal advocacy, and counseling and therapy for Fayette County residents who are victims of sexual assault, child abuse, physical assault, robbery, homicide, DUI, arson, and other violent crimes.

On May 15, 2025, Andrea Hibbs, Executive Director, Crime Victims' Center of Fayette County, presented the Fayette County Juvenile Probation Office with a Community Partner Recognition Award in conjunction with celebrating its 50th anniversary. On behalf of the agency, the award was accepted by Heath Randolph, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer; Cale White, Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer; and Richard Mosier, Supervisor, under observance of Hon. John F. Wagner, Jr., Senior Juvenile Court Judge, and several juvenile probation staff. This award recognizes both agencies' dedication, teamwork, and commitment to fostering a strong, effective partnership which enhances the services provided to victims of crime in Fayette County. Congratulations to the Fayette County Juvenile Probation Office and Juvenile Court for receiving this award!



# MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

## TURN AWARENESS INTO ACTION

*Reprinted with permission by the Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth & Family Services*

As you may know, May is Mental Health Awareness month! This year's theme, Turn Awareness Into Action, encourages individuals and communities to speak up and advocate about the importance of mental health and ways to make improvements. Please take a look at the resources below as they can help and guide you when it comes to promoting mental health awareness, which can be done in a variety of ways:

- Mental Health America – [Mental Health Month Action Guide](#)
- National Council for Mental Wellbeing – [Mindful Moments Checklist](#)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – [2025 Mental Health Awareness Month Toolkit](#)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) – [Mental Health Awareness Month Campaign](#)
- Disabled Veterans National Foundation – [Mental Health Awareness Month and What You Should Know](#)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – [VA Mental Health Services](#)
- The Trevor Project – [Suicide Prevention and Crisis Intervention for LGBTQ young people](#)
- American Hospital Association – [Resources for Mental Health](#)
- National Recreation and Park Association – [How Do Parks Affect Mental Health and Ways to Celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month Activities and Toolkits](#)
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry – [Mental Health Information, Facts, and Resources](#)



### ANNOUNCEMENT

**2025 James E. Anderson**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Conference on Juvenile Justice**

The deadline for submitting nominations  
has been extended for the following award categories:

**James E. Anderson Juvenile Justice Youth Scholarship Award**  
and  
**Professional Awards:**

- Chief Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year
- Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year
- Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year
- Victim Advocate of the Year
- Outstanding Service Award
- Juvenile Court Support Service Award
- Residential Program of the Year
- Court-Operated Program of the Year
- Community-Based Program of the Year

**DEADLINE: JUNE 16, 2025**

[Click here to download and view the nomination forms.](#)

For questions, contact Angel Stewart at [angstewart@pa.gov](mailto:angstewart@pa.gov) or  
Keysla Rodriguez at [keyrodriagu@pa.gov](mailto:keyrodriagu@pa.gov).

# STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## CLASS OF 2025 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AND RECEPTION

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission's (JCJC) Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University! The spring Graduate Commencement Ceremony was held at Shippensburg University's H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center on Friday, May 9, 2025. The Hon. Stephen P.B. Minor, Chair, JCJC, and President Judge, Potter County, participated in the commencement ceremony processional and was seated on the stage with Shippensburg University administrators and faculty to offer congratulations to the graduates as they received their diplomas. Additionally, JCJC staff who attended the ceremony were acknowledged by University President Dr. Charles Patterson.

Prior to the commencement ceremony, the JCJC Graduate Education Program graduates were celebrated and recognized during a reception hosted in Shippensburg University's Ceddia Union Building. In attendance at the reception were President Patterson; Don Corry, President, Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers; JCJC staff; Shippensburg University Criminal Justice Department faculty; chief juvenile probation officers and deputy chief juvenile probation officers from the graduates' juvenile probation departments; and the graduates' family and friends.

On behalf of the JCJC and Shippensburg University, we offer our congratulations to (pictured: left to right) Christina Snook (Clinton County), Mercedes Olvera Bedolla (Delaware County), Daniel Murtagh (Philadelphia County), Domonic Kirchoff (Juniata County), Marissa Templeton (Berks County), Levi Stanko (Warren County), Chad Toland (Butler County), and Mark Saporito (Warren County) on this outstanding achievement.

Mercedes Olvera Bedolla was chosen as the Graduate Student of the Year by the criminal justice department faculty. She will receive the Dr. Anthony F. Ceddia Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Juvenile Justice during the James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice on November 6, 2025.

The JCJC and Shippensburg University again offer our congratulations to these students and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors!

### June

- 3 A Snapshot of Courtroom Presentations for Coaches - Virtual
- 6 Marijuana and Youth: The Impact of Use on Their Mental and Physical Health - Virtual
- 11 Essential Tools to Bring the "Super" to Supervision - Virtual
- 17 Working with Resistant Youth and Families - Harrisburg
- 25 Courtroom Presentations: Come Learn Better Writing and Speaking Skills - Wilkes-Barre
- 25 Understanding Autism and Other Neurodevelopmental Disabilities to Drive Effective Supports and Services - Virtual

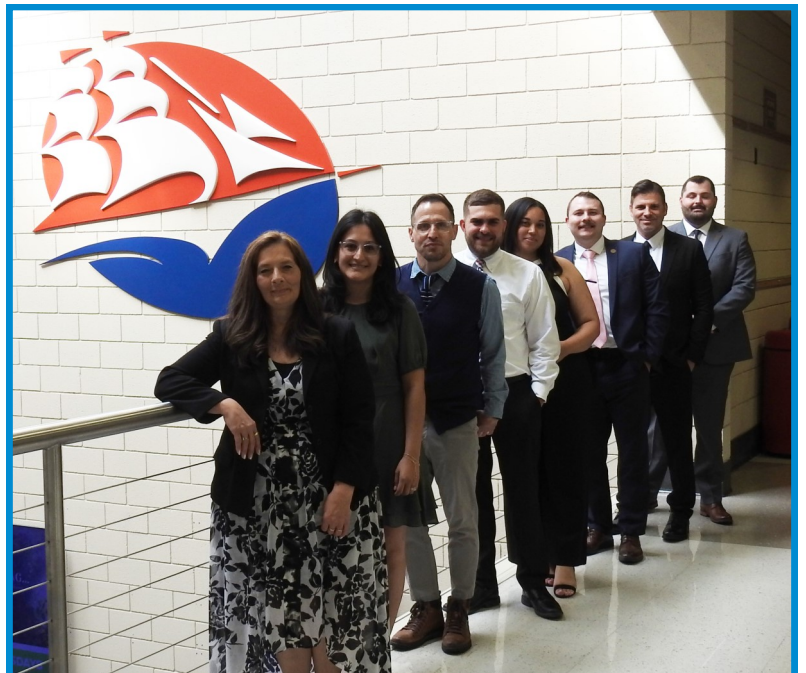
### July

- 2 Cultural Competence - Virtual
- 8-15 Continuous Quality Improvement for Juvenile Probation Officers - Virtual
- 22-24 EPICS Training for Juvenile Probation Officers - State College

### August

- 5 How to Experience More Peace in the Midst of Chaos - Virtual
- 12 Substance Abuse and Dependence in Adolescents - State College
- 14 Recognizing Current Drug Trends - Virtual
- 20 Child Protective Services and General Protective Services - Mechanicsburg
- 26 Anxiety & Depression in Children - Virtual

For registration, please visit [www.jcjcjems.pa.gov](http://www.jcjcjems.pa.gov).



## JCJC GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

How did the JCJC Graduate Education Program address the current reforms and initiatives in the Pennsylvania juvenile justice system, and how has that influenced your professional approach or the work you do today?

*Trying to narrow down what the JCJC Graduate Education didn't do for me would be a much easier question to answer. As I think about my experience, I am reminded of what we were told in our first class on the first day: "Always question and always think critically." From new state regulations/obligations to county initiatives, my cohort and professors were always there to discuss the implications of changes. We spent countless hours inside and outside the classroom thinking, problem-solving and talking about the implications of changes. While we, here in Cambria County, operate on a small scale, it's hard to see what that bigger picture is. Throughout my time in the JCJC Graduate Education Program I gained valuable knowledge that went beyond the classroom. Being able to understand how both larger and similar size counties operate is knowledge a book can't teach. Applying what I learned in the program has motivated me to be a change agent here in juvenile probation and has allowed me to understand that a bigger picture exists outside of this county. Additionally, I will also be sharing my knowledge as an adjunct professor at Saint Francis University in the fall teaching Juvenile Justice and Treatment. Without the opportunity to be a part of the JCJC Graduate Education Program, I would not have the ability to present my knowledge and experiences to the next generation of juvenile justice professionals.*

**Kimberly Berzonsky**  
**Cambria County Administrative Office of Juvenile Court**  
**Class of 2023**

**2025 James E. Anderson**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Conference on Juvenile Justice**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**NOVEMBER 5 - 7, 2025 HILTON HARRISBURG**

**For lodging and all conference details  
as they become available, visit:**

**[WWW.PA.GOV/AGENCIES/JCJC/PROGRAM-AREAS/ANNUAL-CONFERENCE.HTML](http://WWW.PA.GOV/AGENCIES/JCJC/PROGRAM-AREAS/ANNUAL-CONFERENCE.HTML)**



Pennsylvania Grand Canyon

## TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Many juvenile probation departments ask how to enter a juvenile who has been detained as a runaway or on a warrant with no new allegations. Please see the following directions from the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) regarding how to enter this scenario into the database.

First, enter the information in the Detention Management module of PaJCMS. From the Search screen, go to the Juvenile dropdown menu and select Add New Detention Juvenile as shown by the red arrow below.

The screenshot shows the PaJCMS Search screen. The top navigation bar includes Home, Juvenile, Actions, Victim, Users, Management Tools, and Admin Tools. The left sidebar has a dropdown menu for 'Juvenile' with options: Last Viewed Juvenile, Search Juvenile, Add New Juvenile, Add New Detention Juvenile (highlighted with a red arrow), Juvenile Explorer, and Active Warrant List. The main search area contains fields for County JID, Juvenile Last Name, Juvenile First Name, DOB, SID, SSN, PO Unit, Assigned PO, Active Status, Type, and From/To Age at Allegation. Search and Clear buttons are at the bottom right.

Second, the Add Juvenile screen shown to the right must be completed with juvenile information. (Fields marked with \* are required to be entered to save and exit the screen.)

The screenshot shows the PaJCMS Add Juvenile screen. The left sidebar lists various information categories: Address, Alias, Dispositions, Disability, DNA Info, Doctor, Document, Drug Testing, Employment, Family/Financial, Gang Activity, Graduated Response History, ID Marks, Insurance, License/ID, Notes, Photo, PO Safety, Prescription, Relationships, School, SSN, Watchlist, and Warrants. The main form area is titled 'Add Juvenile' and includes sections for: Alleged Delinquent (Detainee), AutoGenerated, County JID, Legal Last Name, Legal First Name, Date of Birth, Age, PO Unit, TAE Eligible, Photo ID Number, Race/Ethnicity, Self-reported, Physical Description, Assigned Sex at Birth, Gender Identity, National Origin, Eye Color, Complexion, Weight, Height, and In. The bottom of the screen has buttons for Add, Edit, Save, Cancel, and Delete.

Next, select Detention Management in the left sidebar where the juvenile's information was added.

Then, add a new Detention Management. Since there is no new allegation, no charges need to be entered for the Alleged Charge List screen. Instead, select Detention in the left sidebar. Click to leave the page when prompted.

Complete the Detention screen shown to the right and make sure to select Pending or No Allegation(s). Finally, finish the process and Save the screen.

The screenshot shows the PaJCMS Detention Management screen. The left sidebar lists: Alleged Charges, Detention Decision, Detention, Alternatives to Detention, Detention/Shelter Hearings, Detention Management, Juvenile Home, and YLS. The main form area is titled 'Detention Management' and includes sections for: Out of Home Episode for Loht, New Episode, Detention Decision, Start Date, Release Date, Police Referred By, Warrant Reason for Detention, Offense Resulting in Detention, Date of Offense, Total Days Out of Home this Episode, Days in Detention, Detention Section, Initial Detention Stage, and Additional Notes. The bottom of the screen has buttons for Notification Dates, Stages, D1 Form, D2 Form, Detention History, Transfer, Edit, Save, Cancel, Delete, and Back.

If you need any assistance, please contact the JCJC Help Desk at (717) 477-1199 or [RA-JCJCHELPDESK@pa.gov](mailto:RA-JCJCHELPDESK@pa.gov).

**JULY 16-18, 2025**  
**Graduate Hotel, State College, PA**



**Keynote Speaker CONFIRMED!!**



### **Tanya Kach**

As seen on Lifetime: "The Girl Locked Upstairs"  
Tanya is a survivor of kidnapping and sexual  
abuse that lasted over a decade.

Additional speakers to  
be announced SOON!!

Vendor Opportunities!!  
Early Registration Discounts!!

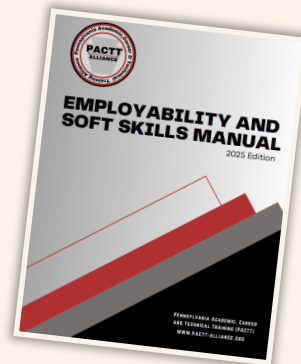
**REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!!!**  
**www.sapen.org**



**Questions?? Email us at Sapenconference@gmail.com**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## **Newly Updated!**



## **Employability and Soft Skills Manual**

<https://pactt-alliance.org/essm>



Watch for more information in next month's issue.



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