



# THE JDA BULLETIN

Keeping you informed of detention's life changing work

## FALL HAPPENINGS

### The JDA Fall Conference

**Sponsored by Children's Village Non-Secure Detention**

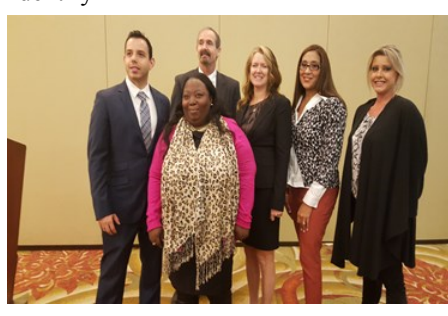
On October 6, 2015, the JDA and Children's Village hosted a Juvenile Justice Symposium that was a hit amongst state-wide public service providers. The symposium commenced with a keynote opening from Westchester County Commissioner of Probation, Rocco A. Pozzi who discussed the makings of a great detention model as well as the innovative work happening within our programs. The morning session included a much needed training from *the International Organization for Adolescents* on the significant issue of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. Alison Boak, Program Director for IOFA presented vital information to attendees on how to identify and service high risk youth.



Michelle Bethencourt-Garcia of Westchester DSS followed by discussing local collaboration efforts between detention providers, probation, social services, and other stakeholders to address the issue. Highlighted was detention's crucial role in identifying sexually exploited youth, while offering a safe stabilization period for the child and connection to services. The Symposium culminated with a presentation from *the Supreme All-Stars* performing arts organization. Also known as *SAS* for their spirited and vibrant energy, these adolescent girls from Mount Vernon took center stage to showcase their talent and personality. *SAS* has partnered with Children's Village Non-Secure to perform, speak and mentor NSD youth, while offering them a healthy outlet upon discharge. Director, Heather Mumphy leads a group 70 adolescent girls who are bound together by their common interests in dance, step, writing, mentoring and community activism. To learn more about their work [click here](#).

### SAVE THE DATE!

**JDA Winter Meeting  
& Installation of New Officers  
January 12 - 13  
The Desmond Hotel  
Albany, NY**



### JDA Nominating Committee Report

The JDA Committee mailed a letter requesting nominations from the membership via Regional Chairs on March 16, 2015. Based on response to this letter, the Committee, consisting of Claudia Engelhardt, Robyn Krueger and Marilee Clark, prepared a slate of officers. The official ballot was distributed to all voting members by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 with a return date of June 30, 2015. Of the ballots received, 4 were determined to be invalid by the Committee. The results were announced at the Fall Membership Meeting in Tarrytown on October 7, 2015 and are as follows:

- President – Jesse Roshia
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – John Treahy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Gary Damon Jr.
- Secretary – Dean DeKranis
- Treasurer – Shad Czerniak

### CONGRATULATIONS!!!

John P Treahy, President and CEO of Glove House is pleased to announce that Kate Hargrave Dailey has been appointed to the position of Program Manager for the Steuben Non Secure Detention program. Kate started her career as a child care counselor for Snell Farms. She began her career with Glove House in 2007 as a Residential Counselor. She was promoted to the Assistant Program Manager in 2011. Kate is involved with the Juvenile Detention Association of NYS, and has extensive knowledge of the Juvenile Justice System. Kate has developed and maintained positive working relationships with numerous state and county officials. Kate began her new duties as Program Manager effective Monday, October 26, 2015.

### INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

#### American Prison Data Systems

Education continues to play a key role in the outcomes and success of our youth. As detention programs we have a short yet important window where we can help to re-engage a child's interest back into their academics. It is imperative that we try different strategies in which to do so. With this in mind, Woodfield Secure and Children's Village Non-Secure have introduced a new program to enhance education services in their facilities. Both programs recently partnered with American Prison Data Systems, an innovative new company that is bringing Android tablet technology to juvenile justice facilities. This company provides various types of education programs such as BrainPop and Khan Academy on a hand-held Android tablet. The tablet is encased physically in a tamper free casing and runs on a secure Verizon network to ensure youth cannot access unauthorized websites. The tablets provide flexibility to be used by teachers in the classroom and staff to promote learning during other periods of the day. Most importantly they make learning fun for students. If your program is interested in partnering with APDS or simply learning more [click here](#).

### LEARNING ABOUT DETENTION

#### What is a Family Team Conference?

A Family Team Conference is a method used in Detention that brings the child, family, probation, social services and other community providers together to plan for youth discharge. When a child enters detention, the Judge typically orders clinical evaluations be performed to assess youth/family functioning, while incorporating crucial information from the Probation Officer's investigation. The challenge to completing investigations and mental health evaluations with high risk youth in the community, are that these youth can be stuck in a highly unpredictable pattern of behavior. These behaviors include absconding from home for long periods of time, using substances, not attending school and failing to attend appointments. A short term remand to detention enables the evaluation officer and the mental health professionals to thoroughly evaluate the child and family, while re-introducing a pattern of daily structure and education back to the child's life. A family team conference is then held with the child/family to review findings and recommendations from clinical professionals and help plan for a return to the community with services in place. The focus of the plan is to link the child/family with appropriate treatment and replicate the consistency and support provided by the detention facility.



#### Alternatives to Detention

At the beginning of the academic year The Children's Village - ATD program provided all clients on its caseload with book-bags and back to school supplies. On the Eve of the Thanksgiving Holiday, ATD workers also created and delivered Thanksgiving Food Baskets for their families in need. The program collaborates with Westchester Probation to provide intensive supervision to youth who are at risk of being remanded to detention. CV-ATD also accepts youth upon discharge from detention to maintain them in the community and support their wrap around services.

### Family Engagement

#### Erie County "Meet the Teachers" & Career Days

On Wednesday, November 4th, Erie County Detention held their first ever "Meet the Teachers Day". Families who attended were extremely grateful to obtain information regarding how the academic program is run and news of their children.

On Tuesday, November 17th, Erie County also hosted Career Day for the students. For the morning sessions, speakers were asked to present for approximately 30 minutes on their respective professions. Students had so many questions that all presentations ran at least 40 minutes. During the afternoon session, there was a keynote speaker which lasted for approximately an hour. In attendance were Lz Rieser, a former Naval Nurse, Rachel Bunch-McCarley, a Social Worker, Daniel Robertson, a representative from Say Yes, Melodie Baker, a representative from the United Way, and as the keynote speaker, Reverend Charles McCarley. Follow up conversations occurred on Wednesday with the students during class. All students stated that they were able to identify with at least one of the presenters and appreciated the program.



#### Thanksgiving Dinner

In the spirit of giving thanks, detention programs throughout the state hosted Thanksgiving dinner for youth and families. Delicious food was prepared by our passionate and dedicated staff to ensure that all clients had a chance to partake in the holiday spirit.



### Youth Expression

#### Hard as a Rock

Solid is the rock is my soul  
 My fire burns bright as you throw coal  
 to give enough light to overflow your bowl  
 I would give to you my heart and mind  
 But I'm not that sweet nor kind  
 On the inside I'm mush  
 On the outside I'm tough  
 Don't be scarred by the impression I leave  
 But when time comes I pull up my sleeve.

We would like you to share the great work you are doing

Please email photos and information to [ddekranis@childrensvillage.org](mailto:ddekranis@childrensvillage.org)

