



THE JDA BULLETIN

SAVE THE DATE! The

JDA Fall Meeting

October 26 - 27, 2017

For more information, please contact: Robyn

Krueger at 716.285-3403, ext. 2238 or

RKrueger@communitymissions.org



A Message from the President

We are in the midst of the summer months; and I am hopeful that you all have had an opportunity for some level of summer fun and relaxation. 2017 has certainly been a busy year for your association: New Officers of JDA were sworn in at the Annual Meeting in January, Robyn Krueger-President (Community Missions Alternatives to Detention) Lucas Jacobs, 1st VP (Berkshire Farms Secure and Non-Secure), Mary Alice Schmidt, 2nd VP (Hillside Children's Center Non-Secure), Michael Marinan (Secretary- Monroe Co. Secure-retired 7/17), Secretary appointed Kate Dailey, (Glove House Non Secure) and Shad Czerniak (House of Good Shepherd Non Secure) ; in April, the 25th year of the JDA Training Institute was reinstated/celebrated with over 60 individuals representing secure, non-secure and alternatives to detention programming along with educators, key OCFS and DCJS staff and other supporters of the Training Institute; and April also saw the passage of Raise the Age in NYS.

Along with these highlights, JDA is preparing for its fall meeting (October 2017) which will be engaging JDA members and programs in the Region I area (Westchester and North along with the NYC & Long Island areas). Final details are being worked on now with the general membership meeting, a training component and interaction with OCFS's Detention Unit staff anchoring the sessions. We will be sending out separate information to encourage your participation in this meeting.

It is our understanding that the Governor's Office and designated presenters will be conducting forums across NYS to discuss the Raise the Age legislation: its enactment, provisions and to gain feedback from stakeholders in each area. Be on the lookout for these forums in your areas and take an active role in determining the best interest of the young adults, providers and communities impacted by this new legislative directive.

In addition to the above outlined work, your association has also engaged in dialogue and legal notification to OCFS that their Office of the Ombudsman's (OOTO) new endeavor (11/16) in engaging detention programs monitored by OCFS as having over extended their statutory authority with this new role. The OOTO's original legislative authority and charge is to monitor and support youth who are in OCFS operated facilities. NYS Detention programs are not OCFS operated facilities.

As we have communicated with detention providers and JDA members across the state, we have found that most feel this is a duplication of service to what regularly occurs with designated Detention Specialist staff from OCFS. These programs also report that it is often confusing for youth, who are legally represented by their designated Attorney for the Child, to be interviewed by so many different individuals during their stay in detention with many asking the same questions.

We look forward to the resolution of this notification. We will keep you abreast of what your association learns in this process. Our concern remains as it always has been: best interest of the youth.

In the meantime, please let me know how JDA might be of service and/or helpful to your organization and staff. There is so much wonderful expertise in this association; and we look forward to increasing our voice and presence in NYS in the coming months. We invite you to become a part of this movement forward as well. I can be reached: 716.285.3403, ext. 2238 or email rkruieger@communitymissions.org at your convenience.

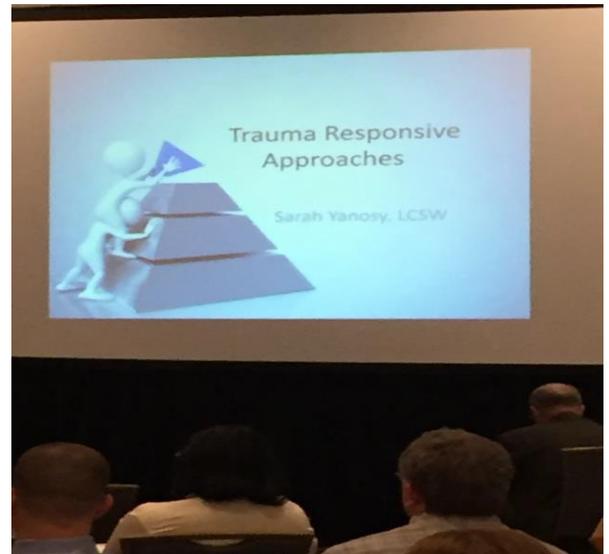
Robyn L. Krueger, JDA President

RECENT EVENTS

THE JDA TRAINING INSTITUTE

The 25th Juvenile Detention Association Training Institute was held over the course of two days in April at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs. The theme of the event was “Defeat Youth Violence: Build Resiliency” and carried many related and varied topics in this area from addressing trauma to discussions of the newly passed Raise the Age legislation.

The Institute began with Sarah Yanosy, one of the founding Directors of the Sanctuary Institute, delivering the keynote speech entitled Trauma Informed and Responsive Care. The day moved on with various workshops that spanned trauma, managed care and a discussion of the Girls Circle program. The day concluded with the Capitan Kate Newcomb from the Broome County Sheriff’s Department discussing opiate abuse and some of the progressive approaches that Broome County is using to help opiate users.



THE 37th ANNUAL JDANYS GOLF TOURNAMENT

On June 27th, 2017, the Juvenile Detention Association of New York State held its 37th Annual Golf Tournament at CenterPoint Golf Club in Canandaigua, New York. Of note the 1st Annual was held in 1980 at a long-closed golf course in Syracuse, New York. The tournament had only one team entered which consisted of; Jon Neal Selzer, Dennis Bartlett, Roger Kelly and John Treahy. This annual event is generally held in the central part of the state so as to include “golfers” from around the state.

This year’s event had 12 teams entered; 10 facility/agency teams and two teams in the mixed division. The day began with a weather forecast that included severe thunderstorms, with high winds and possible hail. The shotgun start at 10 AM began with brilliant sunshine and blue skies that belied what awaited 48 golfers who were putting everything on the line to claim that coveted trophy that had been held for two years by Glove House. The weather changed by the moment ranging from sunshine to heavy rains and high winds and back. All but two teams finished the grueling 18 holes to complete the day.

The day concluded with a banquet and awards presentation. The facility trophy was claimed by Community Missions of Niagara Falls and the mixed division was won by the team from the Monroe County Children’s Center. Congratulations to both teams. We hope you enjoy your cruise!!!

Our thanks go out to all who participated and we hope to see you again next year. **SAVE THE DATE:** June 26th, 2018



FACILITY NEWS & UP DATES

Monroe County

The Monroe County Children's Center in Rochester is pleased to announce several recent and significant Administrative and personnel changes. The facility is operated by the Department of Human Services, and oversight from that agency will now be provided by Merideth Smith Esq., the recently named Deputy Director of Administrative Services. Facility Director Michael Marigan retired from his position effective June 30, and Catherine Thomas assumed the role of Acting Director on that date. Another recent personnel change at the facility was the addition of Casework Supervisor Shelia Williams.

Ms. Smith has extensive administrative and legal experience from a variety of roles that she has occupied with Monroe County including that of County Attorney. Merideth is well prepared to assist the facility and County in the Raise the Age transition. Merideth may be contacted at the Monroe County Department of Human Services.

Ms. Thomas had only recently joined the facility as Assistant Coordinator but she is also well prepared for her new role. She came to the facility with extensive experience in human services including time as a District Director for Berkshire Farm Center and she has considerable administrative experience in various capacities with the University of Rochester. Catherine holds a Master of Social Work Degree, along with a Master of Teaching Health Professions degree, and is tireless in her community involvement. Most people in the detention field will understand that Catherine started her career in non-secure detention, and always has held a place in her heart for the children and families we serve.

Ms. Williams, perhaps not coincidentally, also worked in detention, at the Children's Center, early in her career. Shelia went on to hold various positions, including CPS Investigator, with the Monroe County Department of Human Services. She also holds a Master of Social Work degree and is very active in the Rochester community.

Oneida County

The House of the Good Shepherd has announced the appointment of Brian McKee as Chief Executive Officer. For over 15 years, Brian has dedicated his career in human services leadership to improving programs and services in Central New York for children and families in need. The House of the Good Shepherd is a regional provider of treatment services for over 750 traumatized children and families annually. William Read, President, Board of Directors, noted "Brian's positive energy and respectful leadership style will guide us into the future. Brian's vast experience will further enhance our daily mission of "Changing Children's Lives". McKee comes to The House of the Good Shepherd from Liberty Resources, which provides individualized community-based services for nearly 15,000 individuals and families.

THE GENE BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Gene Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2012 in honor of Gene A. Brown with a generous donation in his memory by Frances Gauteri, his widow.

Gene A. Brown was the director of the Woodfield Secure Detention Program operated by Leake and Watts in Westchester County and was an involved member of the Juvenile Detention Association. At the time of his retirement, Gene was made a Member Emeritus of JDA after having been an active member since 1996.

The purpose of the Gene Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund is to encourage and subsidize training in the field of juvenile detention. Speakers at training events have been funded as well as scholarships distributed to enable staff attendance from detention facilities who could not otherwise afford to attend. JDA members are eligible to benefit from the Gene Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Gene Brown Training Day was held in his memory in Elmira, NY on October 23, 2012 during the Fall Meeting of the Juvenile Detention Association.

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

Girls Circle Implementation – Niagara County

Girls have had an increased presence in the Juvenile Justice system in the last few years. Because girls develop differently than boys, it is safe to say that they may require alternative programs that effectively will target their specific risks, needs, and strengths.

Girls Circle is a program founded through the One Circle Foundation, and is an evidence based program that does just that. The model is already a foundation of Westchester County Non-Secure Detention and has recently been implemented by Niagara County and Westchester County ATDs. Girl's Circle is a structured group format for girls aged 9-18 years old. The Groups consist of activity and discussion where the girls lead the group and the facilitator helps guide them through the topic. The topics that are offered for the groups vary greatly, and could cover issues such as Diversity and Tolerance, Values, Conflict, Healthy relationships, Self-Expression, Stress and Anger Management, etc. The goal of the groups are for the girls to gain a greater awareness of themselves and other girls surrounding them. This will help close the gap of difference between them, and doubt within themselves. It encourages youth to push through and hopefully assist the youth with any hopelessness or disconnect they may be having.

Girls Circle is the first gender-responsive program in Niagara County to demonstrate effectiveness in reducing delinquency for girls. A study was created to conduct a randomized experiment of the Girls Circle Model. A control group received tradition non-gender specific services, and a treatment group received Girls Circle program services specific. It was found that the program has been proven to reduce recidivism at 12 month post-program completion, and reduce risky behavior. There was also positive gains in psychosocial assets, school aspirations and expectations and perceived body image. The evaluation of the program was funded by the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and was conducted in Cook County, Illinois. Previous studies revealed statistically significant improvement for girls in the program in self-efficacy, a decrease in self-harming behavior, a decrease in rates of alcohol use, an increase in attachment to school and an increase in positive body image.

This program was able to be launched as a pilot within the Community Missions, Inc. Juvenile Intensive Case Management program (JICM) at the LaSalle Preparatory School which holds 7th and 8th graders. It is the first type of group in the county that is aimed primarily for girls, and takes place within the school environment. We ran three groups, one for 7th grade and 2 for 8th graders. Below are the final results of the pilot program.

35 Referrals

22 Successful Completions

63% Success Rate

Of the 13 youth that did not Successfully Complete the Program:

1 Removed From Program for Breach of Confidentiality

3 Missed too Many sessions due to attendance

4 Transferred to Alternative School before half way mark

1 Requested to leave group to be with her friends instead

2 Never showed up for any groups

2 Stopped showing up with no reason given

The girls that successfully completed the program were not suspended or further engaged in inappropriate behavior during or following the program for 2 months of follow up. More groups are anticipated to carry out throughout the remainder of the school year due to additional funding being found to cover the cost of supplies and labor to continue. It has proven to be beneficial and the girls all had positive evaluations of the program at conclusion.

Community Missions is also pleased to report that the Girls Circle programming was included in a five year 21st Century Grant award with the Niagara Falls School District, following their review of this pilot project. We will be hiring a fulltime Girls Group Facilitator and launching groups within the elementary and preparatory schools in the District.

For further information on all of the One Circle Foundation programs, visit <https://onecirclefoundation.org/>

YOUTH EXPRESSION



Art provided by, Steuben NSD



Art provided by, Steuben NSD

One Woman Only

When I talk to you it's
like all my problems
go away at that moment

When I kiss you on your
cheek and say goodnight
our vibe gets bigger

When I tell you I love you
and you say it back
I feel our loyalty

But when I tell you "bye"
It's like I failed you

You will always be in my heart
you are my number one fan

When we struggle
God was always there.

-SD, Westchester NSD

Would you like to share the great work you are doing? Please email

Info and articles to ddekranis@childrensvillage.org



