

2019 Criminal Justice Advisory Board Conference
Criminal Justice Challenges; Collaborative Solutions
The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, State College, PA
April 9-10, 2019

Session Descriptions

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

PCCD

Morning Plenary Sessions

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Rising Tide of Mental Health Issues: Human Challenges and Human Solutions

Dr. Andrea Bonior, Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Why are so many mental health disorders growing in prevalence in the United States, and what can be done about it? Dr. Bonior breaks through the myths of mental illness, and paints a human picture that goes beyond the numbers. She discusses the most pressing crises in mental health today, and their complicated relationship with the criminal justice system. Building upon a message of hope, Dr. Bonior leaves the audience with sound science, surprising stories, and actionable tools for making a difference in the lives of those with mental health disorders—human to human.

Break

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

The 1.2% Factor-How to Collaborate for Excellence

Bob Davies, Author

In this keynote session, Bob Davies will explain his methodology for collaborating through a discussion of core principles in an interactive format designed to help audience members achieve a mental capacity for enhanced performance and discover how these innovative techniques can be used to achieve goals.

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch and Awards Ceremony

Honorable Linda KM Ludgate, Senior Judge

Honorable Jeffrey Snyder, Clinton County Commissioner

First Set of Breakout Sessions

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Manager as Coach

As a two-time college conference champion coach, Bob Davies developed an innovative method of coaching and leadership using the research of Nobel-Prize Winning Neuropsychologist Roger Sperry. In this interactive session, Mr. Davies will build upon the information and lessons learned in his keynote session, "The 1.2% Factor" and will teach the audience how to discover untapped insights and capabilities to become effective leaders in both their professional and personal lives.

From Re-lease to Re-integration: An Exercise in Reentry

This powerful reentry simulation allows audience members to experience first-hand what occurs after an individual is released from prison and attempts to re-integrate back into society. Participants will strive to complete their court-ordered obligations and maintain their everyday lives while attempting to avoid the ever-present possibility of re-incarceration. At the conclusion, participants can expect to gain a greater insight into the life of a reentrant and recognize that reentry is an issue that requires a collaborative solution. This is an interactive session that will require attendee participation and space will be limited. To allow for as many conference attendees to participate in this experience, a bonus session of this breakout will be offered at the end of the first day of the conference!

Implementing EBP in PA's County Adult Probation and Parole Departments

The county adult probation and parole departments of Pennsylvania have made a major public commitment to implement evidence-based practices (EBP) to improve the effectiveness of probation and parole services. The County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of Pennsylvania has engaged key stakeholders, published a multi-year plan and secured seed funding, representing a very large and complex organizational change effort in almost every county of the Commonwealth.

The EBP model for probation and parole is large and complex, and implementation requires a great deal of change within a probation and parole department as well as commitment and support from internal and external stakeholders. This session is designed to introduce the project to CJAB members, describe the changes that will occur and explore the implications for the constituent agencies and organizations of the CJABs.

Interstate Compact: System Impact

The Interstate Compact has the force and effect of federal law; therefore, probation and parole agencies, law enforcement, courts, parole boards, jails and other executive agencies within the Commonwealth are subject to the rules. The Compact can only be successful with the collaboration and cooperation of all criminal justice agencies. This presentation will provide an overview of the specific rules that effect these agencies, what responsibilities they have in the process and what can be done to avoid potential liability.

First Set of Breakout Sessions (Continued)

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PA Parolee Clearinghouse Reentrants Advocates: Creating Alliances for a Better Tomorrow

Upon release from a state or county correctional institution, reentrants may have a plan on how to get back on their feet, but even a well thought out plan can fail, resulting in doors being slammed, promises broken, a return to old habits and a return to incarceration. By getting to know the person, rather than the crime, the PA Parolee Clearinghouse has successfully built trusting relationships to understand the needs of reentrants and provide potential assistance options via a listing of state/county-based resources collected by our staff. This session will describe the history and growth of the PA Parolee Clearinghouse and its collaborative relationships with other organizations to provide solutions to decrease the rate of recidivism.

How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Judicial Decision-Making (Part 1)

Although prevalence estimates vary, there is consensus that high percentages of justice-involved women and men have experienced serious trauma throughout their lifetime. The reverberating effects of trauma experiences can challenge a person's capacity for recovery and pose significant barriers to accessing services, often resulting in an increased risk of encountering the criminal justice system. Trauma-informed court responses can help to avoid re-traumatizing individuals, and thereby increase safety for all, decrease recidivism, and promote and support recovery of justice-involved women and men with serious mental illness. Partnerships across systems can also help to link individuals to trauma-informed services and treatment for trauma. This highly interactive training is specifically tailored to community-based criminal justice professionals including: Judges, Court personnel, Other court professionals.

Leveraging the Power of Stepping Up

This session will highlight ways in which counties have leveraged the Stepping Up initiative to address the prevalence of adults with mental illnesses in jails. Panelists will provide an overview of the Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center and progress made by participating counties implementing the Stepping Up framework, discuss ways counties have advanced efforts to collect accurate and accessible data on the number of people with mental illnesses in their jails, and highlight ways peer-to-peer learning and mentoring can be used to support your county's efforts and drive change.

Second Set of Breakout Sessions

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Blue Guardian Project

Blue Guardian is an initiative between the Lehigh County District Attorney's Office, the Regional Intelligence and Investigation Center and the Lehigh County Department of Drug & Alcohol. The program leverages existing relationships between police and their communities to support individuals and their families plagued by opioids in accessing treatment supports. The program triggers a home support visit, 48-72 hours after application of naloxone and medical treatment, during which a Certified Recovery Specialist and a uniformed police officer will work to reengage the individual and provide resources to the family.

The goal is two-fold: getting the individual the treatment supports they need and providing resources to the family. This interactive session includes a live demonstration of the program and will show audience members how joining law enforcement and treatment supports together to meet an individual and their family where they live, they can lessen the barriers and obstacles that exist and concurrently support those in need.

Teens and Technology – Unintended Consequences

Smartphones and social networking have revolutionized communications among teens and even preteens. To keep them safe, educators, police, victim advocates and judiciary must first comprehend how smartphones are being used/misused by teens and collaborate to build a comprehensive program to educate students on the potential harmful ramifications of their actions! This unique and eye-opening presentation will help raise the awareness of a variety of serious issues involving teens and technology. We will discuss things such as sexting, self-destructing photo apps, secret messaging apps, information hidden in digital photos, location sharing, sextortion and the way juveniles are using apps to hide things from their parents, teachers, and police.

Opioid Intervention Court- Promising Results for Reducing Opioid Related Overdose Deaths for the Justice-Involved

The Opioid Epidemic has challenged all aspects of our institutions and society. The Cumberland County Opioid Intervention Court, opened in February 2018, meets every week day to offer opiate-addicted justice-involved individuals an intervention of treatment, recovery services, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and supervision.

This collaborative approach combines community resources with criminal justice sanctions to provide an intervention and stabilization for justice-involved individuals with opiate addiction, with the goal of reducing opioid-related overdose deaths. During this panel discussion, key Court team members will describe their experience with this innovative pilot program.

Second Set of Breakout Sessions (Continued)

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Career Pathways for Reentrant Success

Studies show that reentrants who become employed in a job and earn a livable wage have much lower recidivism rates than those who do not. Through a United States Department of Education grant, the Department of Corrections (DOC) has implemented a Career Pathways approach to job readiness for reentrants. In this presentation, DOC staff will discuss the benefits and limitations of being a state agency, and how Career Pathways can work at a county level. Staff will also discuss how prisons and jails can provide job readiness skills during an individual's incarceration and how a "soft hand-off" into the workforce development system upon reentry can improve recidivism rates.

How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Judicial Decision-Making (Part 2)

Although prevalence estimates vary, there is consensus that high percentages of justice-involved women and men have experienced serious trauma throughout their lifetime. The reverberating effects of trauma experiences can challenge a person's capacity for recovery and pose significant barriers to accessing services, often resulting in an increased risk of encountering the criminal justice system. Trauma-informed court responses can help to avoid re-traumatizing individuals, and thereby increase safety for all, decrease recidivism, and promote and support recovery of justice-involved women and men with serious mental illness. Partnerships across systems can also help to link individuals to trauma-informed services and treatment for trauma. This highly interactive training is specifically tailored to community-based criminal justice professionals including: Judges, Court personnel, Other court professionals.

Case Assisted Re-Entry (CARE) Program: Franklin County's Solution to Assisting Individuals with Mental Illness in the Criminal Justice System

Individuals with mental health issues are over represented in the criminal justice system. According to the PA Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center (2019), 17 percent of incarcerated adults are diagnosed with a serious mental illness compared to 4.4 percent in the general public. This problem continues in part due to a lack of coordination between the mental health and criminal justice systems. The Case Assisted Re-Entry (CARE) Program is designed to employ evidence-based practices with case management while helping participants to engage in the mental health system. Assessments are utilized in conjunction with case planning designed to include the client in the wellness process. This innovative program takes a client-first approach that examines all aspects of life: traumatic events, risk and needs, and considers the person's current stage of change. All of this is combined to form a treatment plan that emphasizes what the client views as priorities. An overview of each of the program components including peer mentoring will be discussed. Handouts include copies of assessments, sample treatment plans, and other tools used.

Second Set of Breakout Sessions (Continued)

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Common Sense Practices in Community Corrections / Information at Sentencing with Statewide Evidence-Based Practices Initiative

This presentation demonstrates the work necessary to take a probation department through the learning and application process of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) implementation, including risk and need assessment, and discusses how judges can consider the implications of the information at sentencing and revocation. During this interactive session, presenters will review the four core correctional competencies required for risk reduction in the daily work of staff, how will supervision practices change as a result, assessing the readiness of your organization and the impact new evidence-based practices will have, including implementation challenges, successes, and best practice policies, and how the results of risk and needs assessments can enhance the quality of sentencing decisions.

This workshop will present an alternative philosophy of treatment program management. This alternative philosophy focuses on engagement of the client, rather than on catching clients violating rules and administering punishment. Exploration of this alternative will also look at how to create a safe environment that supports risk-taking, and how the Stages of Change model is vital to understanding reluctance to taking risks in treatment.

Bonus Session

4:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

From Re-lease to Re-integration: An Exercise in Reentry

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Session Descriptions (continued)

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

PCCD

Morning Plenary Sessions

9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Where There's Breath, There's Hope: Addressing Trauma in Criminal Justice Populations

Tonier Cain shares her experience as a crack cocaine addict and the years of trauma she experienced which lead to 83 arrests and 66 convictions. In this powerfully moving presentation, Ms. Cain will discuss the importance of criminal justice professionals being trauma-informed, and how she turned her life around to become the CEO of several organizations and a renowned international trauma care expert.

Break

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Best Practices for Reducing Overdoses in Communities: Harnessing the Power of Coalitions

This panel presentation includes leaders from Berks, Fayette, and Washington County Overdose Coalitions who have successfully reduced overdose in their communities. The panelists will discuss best practices for bridging public health and public safety, using data to drive decisions, and implementing strategies for overdose reduction.

Triple M: Mindset, Mental Health and Motivation

In this session, audience members will learn the 4 Simple Psyche Types and use the crucial secret of persuasion to better understand the mindset, mental health and motivations of justice-involved individuals.

Post Conference Session

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Getting Work Done - How to use Systems Transformation to Achieve Goals in the CJAB

This session will help increase knowledge and skills that are needed to effectively work within the CJAB structure. This post conference session will assist CJAB leadership team to utilize a vision statement to guide work, communicate best practices for getting work done in a collaborative setting, and provide learning experiences to help leaders achieve their vision.

CJAB Chairs, Coordinators, and other CJAB members in leadership roles are highly encouraged to attend this session!