

2022 Criminal Justice Advisory Board Conference
Administering Justice in a Changing World
The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, State College, PA
April 12-13, 2022

Session Descriptions Day One
Tuesday, April 12, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Morning Plenary Sessions

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Re-imagining Justice in An Ever-Changing Adolescent World: Beyond Trauma-Informed Care

Emerging insights into the physical, cognitive, psycho-social, and neurobiological development of adolescents (ages 10-25) force us to re-conceptualize our understanding of juvenile capabilities, acquire actionable intelligence regarding their risk and resiliency factors, and adopt a commitment to challenge historical narratives marginalizing the vulnerable. Moving beyond trauma-informed care towards healing-centered approaches to justice empowers those under corrective supervision (and those at risk) to re-orient the direction of their lives so that our communities become safe havens.

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Morning Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

David L. Garlock: The Chapters of His Life

In this session, Mr. Garlock will share his journey as a survivor of childhood abandonment and sexual abuse through incarceration to returning citizen and an advocate for criminal justice reform. He will discuss the chapters of his life through trauma, prison, and freedom.

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch and Awards Ceremony

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Transition to Breakout Sessions

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

First Set of Breakout Sessions

Second Chance Court: An Early Lifeline

Second Chance court is a pretrial bail divisionary program. The object of the program is to identify those persons at the time of arrest who suffer from substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders to offer the person an opportunity to voluntarily enter treatment. The program involves a team approach consisting of the specially assigned judge, deputy district attorney, a specially assigned public defender, drug treatment court representative, probation and parole supervisor, the treatment team at Crozer Medical Center, and the program coordinator.

Keeping Community Alive: Preventing & Addressing Community Gun Violence

This presentation will examine the prevention and response efforts to gun violence. These programs, such as Juvenile Engagement, Credible Messengers, Community Trauma Responder, and Juvenile RE-Entry, focus on support and outreach to both the youth and adult population, while also focusing on law enforcement initiatives such as the Violence Intervention Unit and Juvenile Crime Analyst.

Stress, Burnout and Trauma Through the Eyes of First Responders and Health Care Practitioners

This session will discuss approaches to educating and promoting wellness and well-being through holistic practices to mitigate stress and burnout with First Responders and Health Care Providers. It will also identify and educate around practices and activities to promote overall well-being and decrease stress.

Creating a PLAN to Keep Individuals with Autism Safe

Interactions with law enforcement and/or first responders can be distressing for individuals with autism. Similarly, behaviors that autistic individuals may present in an emergency can be confusing for first responders. This distress and confusion by all parties can lead to negative and unforeseen outcomes. Learning how to PLAN (Prepare Learn Advise and Notify) can better prepare individuals with autism, their family, and support staff if an interaction with law enforcement or first responders occurs. Having a PLAN keeps everyone safer.

During this session, Kate Hooven, the Justice Project Coordinator for ASERT, a former juvenile probation officer, and the mother of a 20-year-old autistic son, will discuss the increasing prevalence of autism today versus a decade ago. The session will also explain what individuals with autism should do and not do if stopped by police, provide an understanding of the rights of individuals with autism if stopped by police in the community and/or subjected to a search, and recognize the importance of a PLAN for individuals with autism and their families.

21 Years of Data on Enola: Exploring this Paradoxical Prison Suicide Risk Factor

This presentation will utilize suicide data compiled from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections' Psychology Office during the previous 21 years to identify and explore the single most common risk factor of prison suicides within Pennsylvania. Operational implications as well as enacted solutions will be discussed and presented.

First Set of Breakout Sessions (Continued)

Reflections on Re-imagining Justice in An Ever-Changing Adolescent World

In this breakout session, attendees will reflect on themes introduced in the plenary address, discuss insights and best practices from their own respective fields, and together foster network enhancement promoting best outcomes for our justice-involved youth. None of us knows as much as all of us.

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Afternoon Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Second Set of Breakout Sessions

Community Action for Recovery & Diversion (CARD)

York County is home to CARD, a comprehensive justice/behavioral health/human services partnership that drives triple diversion (reductions in incarceration, hospital-based crisis, and emergency housing). After an introduction from York County's President Commissioner, speakers will share local lessons learned: bridging government and community interests to drive diversion, collaborative planning for diversion across intercepts, leveraging the federal CCBHC model to expand access to care, and positioning the CJAB as a venue to move from planning to implementation.

Using Data to Improve Decision Making

Data is everywhere. The effective management and use of data is necessary to optimize organizational performance and direct limited resources. In this presentation, we will explore examples of how data is being leveraged by Commonwealth public safety agencies to improve decision making.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

After the murder of George Floyd, while the world faced a pandemic, and social media was used as a platform for hate, D.R.I.V.E. was created. D.R.I.V.E. is a committee that focuses on diversity, equity, and inclusion within adult probation and the Lancaster County Court system. D.R.I.V.E. is intentional on acknowledging and addressing the systemic issues, increasing awareness through education, and improving community relations between law enforcement and the community. Let's talk about it...

Comprehensive Review of Sentencing Guidelines: A Proposed New Edition

This presentation will focus on the work undertaken by the Commission since 2014 to take a fresh look at the sentencing guidelines, and to consider fundamental changes that streamline and automate the application, that target recommendations to improve offender outcomes and resource utilization, and that address concerns about disproportionality and over-reliance on institutional and community corrections.

Second Set of Breakout Sessions (Continued)

Mental Health Services in State Prison: Current and Future Directions

The Department of Corrections has become the single largest provider of MH services in Pennsylvania. While the overall population of the DOC is declining, the MH population is on the rise. This workshop will demonstrate to participants the mental health services currently available to individuals housed by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

Community Care: the KCIT Response

The Keystone Crisis Intervention Team (KCIT) utilizes a community care approach, called Group Crisis Intervention (GCI), to support crime victims and their communities throughout Pennsylvania in their recovery from traumatic events. KCIT is a free service for all who reside in the Commonwealth, responding to any crime that thrusts a community into grief and crisis, often leaving them wondering how their world will ever be okay again. This session will explain how trauma effects individuals and their communities and how KCIT can help.

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Session Descriptions Day Two
Wednesday, April 13, 2022

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Morning Plenary Session

Why Gender Matters: Creating Trauma Services for Justice-involved People

With the increased awareness of the impact of trauma on people’s lives, criminal justice professionals are beginning to consider what this means in their specific settings. There is a growing evidence-base documenting the impact of child neglect and abuse (as well as other forms of trauma) on health, mental health, addiction, and the risk of criminal-justice involvement. Today we also acknowledge the importance of understanding gender in terms of the differences in risk of and responses to trauma. Historically, “gender responsive” referred to services for women and girls. Today we have expanded our understanding of gender and its importance in providing effective interventions to include men, boys, transgender, and nonbinary clients.

This presentation discusses the specifics of becoming gender-responsive for all populations, as well as defining the three levels of trauma work: trauma informed, trauma responsive, and trauma specific. It also offers recommendations for evidence-based resources for all three levels of trauma work.

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Transition to Breakout Sessions

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Trauma and Addiction: Theories and Strategies for Effective Intervention

This workshop reviews the connection between trauma and addiction and provides the foundational theories, the treatment strategies, and an overview of the sessions in four treatment curricula for adults and youth:

Helping Women Recover: A Program for Treating Addiction
Voices: A Program of Self-Discovery and Empowerment for Girls
Helping Men Recover: A Program for Treating Addiction
A Young Man’s Guide to Self-Mastery

Examples of interactive exercises, including grounding skills, are demonstrated from each curriculum that can be incorporated into substance use disorder services for justice-involved people.

Breakout Sessions (Continued)

Building Coalitions Through Criminal Justice Advisory Boards

This session will discuss approaches to building, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining a successful evidence based Criminal Justice Advisory Board. University of Pittsburgh, Program and Evaluation Research Unit (PERU) staff will also discuss how to identify, engage, and maintain stakeholders from the community to support the work and overall health of your county CJAB.

Collaboration, Local Efforts to Implement Evidence Based Reentry Service Center

Faced with jail crowding and having to refer inmates to nearby by counties at a high cost, Lycoming County adopted a more flexible approach for managing inmates, probationers, and pretrial defendants. In 2014, the county implemented community reentry and supervision programs to support the probation department and lessen crowding at the jail. The new programs included an electronic monitoring program to enhance community supervision for officers as well as a reentry service center, which delivers evidence-based treatment and reintegration services for about 100 individuals at a time. Since opening, the reentry center has reduced jail crowding by over 10%, lowered risk assessment scores and rearrests dramatically, cut transfers to nearby jails to just a few each month, and boosted employment for participants. The successful outcomes have been supported by close collaboration between the judiciary, probation, and law enforcement officials. In 2020, a Reentry Coordinator has been added to assist the jail in reentry planning for returning citizens. The Reentry Coordinator has also reinstated the county Reentry Coalition. This workshop will highlight the challenges, decisions, and implementation process for developing this rounded approach to reentry integration.

Decreasing Justice Involvement for People with Behavioral Health Needs: Achieving Results through Stepping Up

Stepping Up is a national initiative that seeks to address the overincarceration of people with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in jails. The Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center, funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and administered by The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, supports PA counties in this work utilizing Stepping Up's framework for system-level change. County efforts have shown that focusing planning at the front end of the system has a strong impact on the prevalence of mental illness in jails and the likelihood that individuals with behavioral health and other needs will face criminal justice involvement to begin with.

In this presentation, CSG Justice Center staff will provide an overview of Stepping Up, the PA TA Center, and how counties can utilize the TA Center to implement effective strategies and reduce the prevalence of mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in jails. A panel of speakers from counties across the state will discuss the strategies they have employed to further build and enhance their crisis systems, the results they are seeing from their efforts, and next steps.

Breakout Sessions (Continued)

Moving Forward: A Peer Facilitated Support Group

Many communities are looking for ways to engage returning individuals in prosocial activities that reduce recidivism. In response to this need in Franklin County, the Franklin Together Reentry Coalition took on the challenge to develop a peer support group that provides needed life skills in an encouraging environment. The Moving Forward Support Group is designed to use peer facilitators trained in group management skills to lead 90-minute sessions that focus on changing criminal thinking while improving coping skills. This group is a promising practice that has a very low recidivism rate for individuals who attend as few as eight groups. This session will show how the groups are structured, provide sample lesson plans and handouts, and view survey information collected from group participants.

Beyond Trauma Training: Effective Implementation of Trauma Informed Practices Across the Intercepts

This session will feature a panel of criminal justice leaders from law enforcement, courts, prison, probation, and reentry sharing practical advice and lessons learned from Lancaster County's experience over the past five years incorporating trauma informed practices in the criminal justice system, along the sequential intercept model.

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Networking Lunch and Closing Remarks - TBD