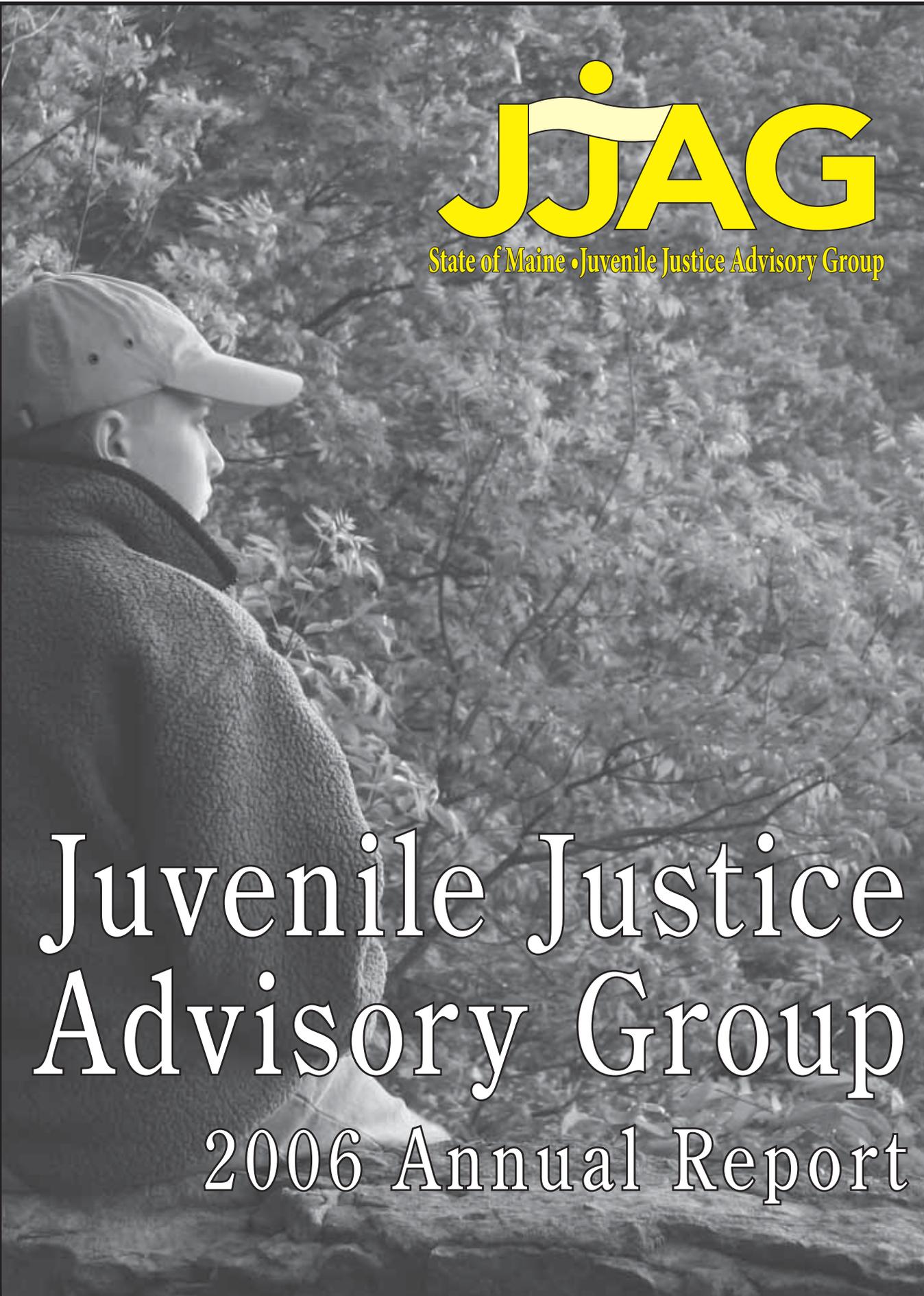




State of Maine • Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

A black and white photograph of a person wearing a cap and a heavy jacket, looking out over a wooded area. The person is in the foreground, slightly to the left, looking towards the right. The background is filled with trees and foliage.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

2006 Annual Report

Paul K. Vestal, Jr., Chair • Edwin Chester, Vice Chair



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP
111 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

PAUL K. VESTAL, JR.
CHAIR

Dear Governor Baldacci and Members of the 123rd Legislature:

The statutorily created Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) presents to you the 2006 Annual Report. For many years now the JJAG has been a leader in promoting innovative funding opportunities, as well as advice to the Legislature on many sensitive issues that involve those juveniles who come in contact with the criminal justice system.

The JJAG is made up of a tremendous group of Maine's best leadership from a large variety of disciplines as well as youth, former offenders, and parents of offenders. We use this collective power to work on behalf of some of Maine's most challenging children. As many parents know, involvement in the juvenile justice system and working with their at-risk child is an extremely difficult task. The members of the JJAG are constantly working to reduce this impact and see that this population of kids becomes valuable and productive citizens of Maine.

We had many challenges this year and we saw new and innovative approaches to those challenges. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention allocations continue to decline. After many years of work, the bulk of the cost for the Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts has been absorbed into departmental budgets. Those departments have collaborated to create this unique option for our kids. Congressman Michael Michaud provided a Congressional earmark in support of this project to bridge the gap in the transition from Federal to State funding.

The JJAG has diligently worked to promote and provide evidenced based programming for youth and mental health screening for pre-adjudicated youth. Tom Sexton, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Counseling and Education Psychology at Indiana University, also Co-Founder of a premier evidenced based program, Functional Family Therapy, provided a teleconference to promote the use of this evidenced based program and explain its adaptability to Maine's diverse and geographically scattered population.

We are funding a pilot project using the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI) for mental health screening of pre-adjudicated youth. This project is being piloted in three counties and will eventually go statewide.

An ongoing challenge for Maine, and a federal requirement, is Disproportionate Minority Contact in the juvenile justice system. States are required to work toward making sure minority youth are not disproportionately represented in the system. This is a very tricky and sensitive issue. In response the JJAG has piloted a project to train the gatekeepers of the juvenile justice system in best practice of sensitively determining race and ethnicity and reporting that information. This project has been subcontracted with the Muskie School of Public Service. Phase 1 of the training has been completed with the Department of Correction, Division of Juvenile Services staff. Evaluation continues.

Lastly, the JJAG has been involved in providing information to a variety of legislative committees and the Governor on certain targeted bills that impact the juvenile justice system. We have been involved as members of the Governor's Task to Engage Maine's Youth. This task force was charged with looking at a variety of ways to connect Maine's at risk population as it applies to the State's education system and advising the Governor of possible changes that might be needed. The recommendations of this Task force will be included in the first session of the 123rd Legislature.

In closing, the JJAG would like to thank the Governor and the Legislature for listening to us and supporting our challenges. We hope you find the following report enlightening and informative. We, the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, consider ourselves very honored to provide our services to Maine youth.

Sincerely,

Paul K. Vestal, Jr.



About the JJAG

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (the Act) was enacted in 1974 and authorized creation of state juvenile justice advisory groups. Maine's Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) was authorized in 1984 by state statute, 34-A MRSA Section 1209, making 2005 the twenty-second full year of Maine's participation in federal programs supported by the Act .

The Maine JJAG is comprised of individuals appointed by the Governor for four-year terms. Board members serve in a voluntary capacity, providing input and direction to the state legislature and Governor on issues concerning juvenile justice. The JJAG also serves as the state advisory group to the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and provides assurances to that office that Maine is meeting the standards mandated by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The Department of Corrections is the JJAG's administrative and fiscal agent and JJAG has a staff of three: a Juvenile Justice Specialist, a Compliance Monitor, and an Administrative Assistant.

The JJAG's primary responsibilities include: (1) preparation and development of a state-wide three-year juvenile justice plan; (2) allocation of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention grants funds provided to the state under the federal Act; (3) monitoring activities and accomplishments of funded state projects; and (4) overseeing Maine's compliance with core requirements of the Act.

The Federal Act Consists of Three Funding Categories:

- I. Title II, Formula Grant Funds – The Act provides each state with formula grants that are allocated on the basis of each state's population under the age of 18. These grant funds support a variety of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs and services as long as the state remains in compliance with the core requirements of the Act. Maine's 2006 Title II Formula Grant allocation is \$600,000.00.
- II. Title V – Delinquency Prevention Funds – As part of the 1992 reauthorization of the Act, Congress established a new funding category, Title V, Incentive Grants for Local juvenile delinquency prevention programs. Funds under Title V are awarded to communities that develop comprehensive delinquency prevention plans at the local, i.e., municipal and county level. Title V funds are allocated to the states based on population under the age of 18. Maine's 2006 Title V Delinquency Prevention allocation is \$56,250.00.
- III. Juvenile Accountability Block Grant - The Act provides each state with a Block Grant that provides financial assistance to eligible governmental agencies who develop projects designed to prevent juvenile delinquency. Maine currently funds several specialized juvenile prosecutors with its \$314,700 2006 allocation.

Maine's Comprehensive Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Fiscal Years 2006 through 2008

Maine's Comprehensive Three Year Plan is available at www.mainejjag.com. This document identifies Maine's juvenile justice needs and describes the JJAG's work plan for the next three years. Three major initiatives within the plan are identifying the mental health needs of pre-adjudicated youth, determining whether disproportionate minority contact exists within Maine's juvenile justice system and implementing Collaborative Problem Solving among various youth-servicing agencies within a single community.

Goals and Priorities Outlined in the JJAG's Three Year Plan

1. Members of the JJAG agree that juvenile justice is a community issue and that the entire community needs accurate knowledge and skills in order to develop appropriate prevention and intervention programs. Not all social service or youth and family serving agencies and providers have up-to-date and accurate information regarding the causes and consequences of juvenile crime. By improving knowledge and understanding through trainings and supporting evidence-based practices that encourage effective programs, the incidence of juvenile crime should be reduced and communities become healthier.
2. Youth involved in the juvenile justice system and at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system may be facing expulsion and suspension from school more frequently than necessary. The JJAG recognizes that suspended and/or expelled students are at higher risk for engaging in criminal behavior and subsequent involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The JJAG is committed to supporting programs that reduce the incidence of school suspensions and expulsions and will encourage schools to adopt appropriate alternatives with a demonstrated ability to improve academic performance for students while satisfying school administrators that appropriate action is taken in response to misbehavior in school.

3. Not all youth involved with or at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system receive appropriate comprehensive mental health, substance abuse and/or family support services. Obstacles to service delivery include everything from lack of treatment providers, lack of financial resources for services, and lack of transportation to and from providers who may be a significant distance from the juvenile and his or her family.
4. Many of the programs currently offered to at risk juveniles and juvenile offenders have not been proven to be effective prevention and intervention programs. The JJAG will continue to support only evidenced-based practices and program assessments that have solid research backing their efficacy.

In addition to ensuring that programs offered to juveniles involved in or at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system are proven to be effective at reducing recidivism, the JJAG will continue to encourage that only the appropriate level of service be given to each individual.

5. Many juvenile justice professionals, legislators and the general public are not accurately informed about “what works” for juvenile offenders and those at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system. The JJAG will continue to provide legislators, juvenile justice professionals and the general public with training and reliable information regarding “what works” so that scarce and diminishing financial resources are spent only on the most effective services.
6. Insufficient data make it difficult, if not impossible, to determine whether minority youth are over-represented in Maine’s juvenile justice system. The JJAG has contracted with the Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine to research how best to collect relevant data and improve the State’s capacity to report accurate information regarding disproportionate minority contacts (DMC).

If as a result of collecting accurate data it appears that minority youth in Maine are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system (i.e. more arrests, detentions and commitments and/or fewer diversion from court), the JJAG will work with law enforcement and DOC officials to determine the cause of such overrepresentation and, if necessary, implement measures to reduce the overrepresentation of minorities.

JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group funds community juvenile delinquency work through a competitive process. A yearly request for proposals is released for Delinquency Prevention, Alternatives to School Suspension and Expulsion and Alternatives to Detention research-based programs. Funding amounts vary due to allocation of funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title II Formula Grant, but in 2006 \$362,581 was available.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVED BY JJAG FUNDING IN 2005-2006

As reported by sub-grantees on Quarterly Reports

Age	Total
10 and under	181
11 to 14	928
15 to 17	1735
18 TO 21	405
21 +	33
Total	3282

RACE AND ETHNICITY

May not match totals above

American Indian	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	White (Includes Arab and Middle Eastern Countries)	Other/ Unknown	Hispanic
128	1	31	2	2002	63	9

AREAS SERVED

	Locations	# of programs
Region 4	Bangor, Old Town, Indian Island, Presque Isle, Lubec, Millinocket, Milo, Brownville, Dover-Foxcroft, Greenville, Lincoln, Enfield, Howland	6
Region 3	Waterville, Belfast, Boothbay Harbor, Augusta, Winslow	4
Region 2	South Paris, Auburn, Lewiston, Topsham	5
Region 1	Brunswick & Freeport, Portland, Sanford Windham, Westbrook, Gorham, Biddeford	8

PROGRAMMING

Community Capacity Building	<i>Raising a Thinking Child</i>	<i>Project SUCCESS</i>
JumpStart	Teen Aspirations	<i>Collaborative Problem Solving</i>
<i>Skills for Responsible Thinking</i>	Alternative Education	<i>I Can Problem Solve</i>
G.R.E.A.T.	<i>Street SMART</i>	SMART Moves
Day Reporting	Disproportionate Minority Contact Study	<i>MAYSI-2 Pilot Study</i>
The Unity Project	Juvenile Representation Training	<i>Leadership & Resiliency Program</i>
<i>Youth Educational Shoplifting</i>	College Community Mentoring	Youth Ideas & Partnership

(Model program)

Members of Maine's JJAG

The Maine JJAG is composed of members appointed by the Governor for a four-year term. Board members serve in a voluntary capacity.

Cathy McLoy Ashland
Parent

Mark Boger
Juvenile Corrections Coordinator
Department of Corrections

Richard Brown
CEO
Charlotte White Center

Leslie Anne Chatfield
Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center

Edwin Chester
Attorney
Chester & Vestal

Barry DeLong
Sheriff
Somerset County

Carla Fearon
Director, Penobscot Nation
Boys & Girls Club

James Foss
Jail Administrator,
Aroostook County

Linda Frazier
OSA Treatment Team Manager
Department of Health and Human Services

Denise Giles
Victim Services Coordinator
Department of Corrections

Dana Hamilton
Community Resource Officer
Somerset County Sheriff's Department
Charles LaVerdiere
Judge, District Court

Alan Hammond
Assistant Director
Maine Criminal Justice Academy

Jamie Johnson
Youth Member

Philippe McLoy
Youth Member

Charles LaVerdiere
Judge, District Court

Margaret Longsworth, CRC, LADC, LCPC
Director of Clinical Services
OHI

Carole Martin
Youthlinks

Dr. James Morse, Sr.
Superintendent
SAD 47

Joan McDonald
CEO
Girl Scouts of Kennebec Council

James Minkowsky
Detective Sergeant
Criminal Investigations Division, Youth
and Family Services Unit
Lewiston Police

Breanne Petrini
Youth Member

Shelley Reed
Truancy, Dropout,
Alternative Education, Homeless Youth,
School Counselors, Reintegrating Youth
from Correctional Facilities
Department of Education

Hugh Sipowicz
Independent Living Program Manager
Department of Human Services

Barry Stoodley
Associate Commissioner for Juvenile Services
Department of Corrections

Christine Thibeault
Assistant District Attorney
Cumberland County

Paul K. Vestal, Jr.
Director, Children's Services
Catholic Charities Maine



2006 Grant Recipients

Back on Track, Inc., Skills for Responsible Thinking	\$30,000
Back on Track, Inc., Skills for Responsible Thinking - Gorham High School	\$30,000
Communities for Children and Youth, College Community Mentoring	\$75,000
Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts	\$314,700
Day Reporting Center, Lewiston	\$125,000
Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument Project	\$56,000
Penobscot Nation Boys & Girls Club, SMART Moves	\$15,000
Oxford Hills School Department, Project SUCCESS	\$40,000
Penquis CAP, Youth Ideas and Partnership Project	\$55,000
Riverview Foundation, Leadership and Resiliency Program	\$56,000
Statistical Analysis Center, Juvenile Disproportionate Minority Contact Study	\$79,000
Windham School Department, REAL School	\$74,000
Youth Educational Shoplifting, Kennebec County	\$33,000
Winslow Delinquency Prevention Projects	\$70,000
Freeport/Brunswick JumpStart	\$8,000
The Unity Project, Edward Little High School	\$36,000
Juvenile Representation Trainings	\$33,000
Strategies for a Stronger Sanford	\$41,000

Delinquency Prevention Programming:

Evidence of a deterrent effect with a strong research design.

The JJAG is proud to support the following model, effective and promising programs:

Class Action is part of the Project Northland alcohol prevention curriculum series, a multilevel, multiyear program proven to delay the age at which young people begin drinking, reduce alcohol use among those who have already tried drinking, and limit the number of alcohol-related problems of young drinkers.

The **Leadership and Resiliency Program** (LRP) aims to prevent the risks of drop-out, expulsions, arrests and substance use facing at-risk high school students by offering innovative school-based diversion program in partnership with a community-based organization. While strengthening resiliency assets of healthy relationships, coping skills and goal-setting, the LRP will increase protective factors linked to preventing criminality later in life through a multi-facet approach including community service, outdoor adventure and pro-social bonding opportunities.

The Communities for Children and Youth College/Community Mentoring Project

(in collaboration with Big Brothers/Big Sisters) is a mentoring model matching college students with elementary and middle school students, who have been identified as needing social support and encouragement to increase their developmental assets and aspirations, thereby reducing the potential of their involvement with the juvenile justice system.

Raising a Thinking Child/I Can Problem Solve develops a set of interpersonal cognitive problem-solving (ICPS) skills that address overt behaviors as early as preschool. Enhancing ICPS skills, decreases future serious problems by addressing behavioral predictors early in life. In addition, the parent intervention component of the program helps parents develop a problem-solving style of communication that guides young children to think for themselves.

The Youth Educational Shoplifting Program (YES) is an offense-specific educational alternative program for kids caught shoplifting that reduces the risk of further involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Maine Juvenile Drug Treatment Court provides timely and effective substance abuse, social services, and juvenile justice interventions through identification of juveniles for referral and treatment; judicial supervision of structured, community-based treatment; regular court appearances to monitor treatment progress and compliance; a series of graduated sanctions and rewards; and mandatory drug testing.

Project Towards No Drug Abuse (Project TND) is an effective drug abuse prevention program that targets high school-age youth. Reductions in cigarette smoking, alcohol use, marijuana use, hard drug use, and victimization have been demonstrated at one- and two year follow-up periods.

The Boys & Girls Club of America **Street SMART** initiative consists of three program components designed to help young people ages 11-13 effectively resist gangs and violence, resolve conflicts and be positive peer helpers in their communities. The Street SMART program also allows youth the opportunity to hold annual events that celebrate anti-gang, anti-violence themes.

Community Trials Intervention reduces alcohol and substance abuse-related incidents, violence, and related juvenile delinquency through a community-based approach using a wide variety of interventions that increase community awareness, change community attitudes and norms, and provide opportunities for community involvement.

Raising a Thinking Child/1 Can Problem Solve develops a set of interpersonal cognitive problem-solving (ICPS) skills that address overt behaviors as early as preschool. Enhancing ICPS skills, decreases future serious problems by addressing behavioral predictors early in life. In addition, the parent intervention component of the program helps parents develop a problem-solving style of communication that guides young children to think for themselves.

Project SUCCESS (Schools Using Coordinated Community Efforts to Strengthen Students) prevents and reduces substance use among high-risk high school age adolescents. Project SUCCESS links the school to the community's continuum of care when necessary, referring both students and families to human services organizations, including substance abuse treatment agencies.

Skills for Responsible Thinking (SRT) is a comprehensive, community-based program for 13 to 18-year-olds who engage in risky behaviors such as crime, substance use, and/or violence. The SRT program, a cognitive behavioral model, confronts, educates and supports at-risk teenagers through a curriculum that motivates and reinforces the individual's ability and desire to make socially conscious choices.

The JJAG also supports the following programs with a strong research base:

Youth Ideas and Partnership Project is a prevention program for youth grades 6 to 12 that increases youth developmental assets through community service, intergenerational bonding and skill building.

Day Reporting provides moderate to high risk juveniles 12 to 18 years of age who are either on probation or transitioning to the community from Mountain View Youth Development Center with non-residential service-based programs. Elements of the program include personal, community and educational adjustment.

The Youth Educational Shoplifting Program (YES) is an offense-specific educational alternative program for kids caught shoplifting that reduces the risk of further involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The Unity Project is a program of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence that empowers students and staff with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to effectively address racial, ethnic and immigration-related conflicts.

Parenting Effectiveness Training is a program that offers parents the specific communication and conflict resolutions skills it takes to build and maintain an effective relationship with a child, in any and all circumstances. This model gives parents the chance to become experts themselves in dealing with the inevitable problems that come up in all parent-child relationships.



Research Based – Evidence Based – Science Based Programming

As stewards of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds, the JJAG maintains that all programs funded by them be rooted in science, have solid research backing their efficacy and be appropriate to the target population. Research conducted over the past several years provides sound evidence of what works for preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency, under what circumstances, for whom and with what expected results. The JJAG supports only programs that show with sound data the need for the program and the ability to implement that program as intended by its developer, that is, with fidelity. Additionally, the JJAG requires ongoing data collection on the efficacy of all funded programs.

Research Based – Evidence Based Practice Finding the Right Program

- What/risk/protective factors are targeted?
- What are the characteristics of the individual/population to be served?
- What programs address these risk/protective factors for this populations
- What is the scientific evidence that this/these programs work?
- What is the delivery capability of this/these program(s)?
- What does the program/intervention cost?
- What is necessary for a quality implementation?

Delbert S. Elliott, Ph.D.

Director, Center for the Study of Prevention of Violence

Collaborative Problem Solving

Collaborative Problem SolvingSM (CPS), as applied to children with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges, is a model that sets forth two major tenets: first, that these challenges are best understood as the by product of lagging cognitive skills (rather than, for example, as attention-seeking, manipulative, limit-testing, or a sign of poor motivation); and second, that these challenges are best addressed by teaching children the skills they lack (rather than through reward and punishment programs and intensive imposition of adult will). Collaborative Problem Solving seeks to first identify the skills that are lagging in each individual challenging child and secondly to teach these skills, primarily through helping challenging children and their adult caretakers learn to resolve disagreements and disputes in a collaborative, mutually satisfactory manner. This involves three basic steps. The first step is to identify and understand the child's concern about a given issue (such as completion of homework or chores, sibling or peer interactions, and so forth) and reassure him or her that imposition of adult will is not how the problem will be resolved (this first step is called *Empathy/Reassurance*). The second step is to identify the adults' concerns on the same issue (this is called the *Define the Problem* step because, in the CPS model, a problem is defined simply as *two concerns that have yet to be reconciled*). The third step is the Invitation; this is where the child is invited to brainstorm solutions together with the adult, with the ultimate goal of agreeing on a plan of action that is both realistic and mutually satisfactory.

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group will seek proposals from units of general local government to implement Dr. Ross Greene's Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) approach in a community setting. Through a single site demonstration project professionals trained in the model will increase the effectiveness of intervention strategies for children and youth with complex needs. The target population for this pilot includes children and youth, ages 5-18, with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. The pilot will be evaluated by the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. It is the goal of the JJAG that, with the success of this 2 year pilot, CPS will be implemented in many other communities in the State.

The JJAG is proud to work with the Regional Children's Cabinets and Children's Behavioral Health Services in the project.

MAYSI-2 Pilot Project

Many children involved in the juvenile justice system lack access to appropriate mental health services. Waiting lists for psychiatric and psychological services are often several months long.

It is speculated that some children become further involved in the juvenile justice system due to lack of appropriate mental health assessment and treatment. Often a juvenile offender's mental health needs are not adequately addressed before commitment to one of Maine's two secure juvenile correctional facilities when they are screened for mental health problems and individualized intervention plans are developed.

Inherent in the process of providing comprehensive mental health evaluations and treatment, is the requirement that universal mental health screening be available at the first possible contact with an alleged juvenile offender. The process must be voluntary, and linked to the issues related to disposition and treatment. The JJAG has determined that the use of the Massachusetts Youth Screening instrument 2nd Version (MAYSI-2) will provide an effective and empirically based juvenile mental health screening tool.

The JJAG Mental Health Steering Committee worked closely with the Department of Corrections Division of Juvenile Services to develop a pilot in Kennebec, Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties. Pre-adjudicated juveniles, in their first contact with a Juvenile Community Corrections Officer, will be screened for mental health needs. Juveniles who are 'flagged' as a result of the MAYSI-2 screening will be identified by the JCCO and evaluated by DHHS/DOC mental health worker.

Kennebec, Penobscot, and Piscataquis County Judges will be provided funding for 'brief' mental health assessments. The Mountain View and Long Creek Youth Development Centers will also provide MAYSI-2 mental health assessments.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group is committed to fair and equitable treatment of all youth in the juvenile justice system. To that end the JJAG is committed to addressing disproportionate minority contact (DMC), wherever it occurs, using evidenced-based and promising strategies, tools and interventions to ensure that (1) minority youth that should be diverted from the system in the first place, and that (2) those minority youth who find themselves in the juvenile justice system do not as a group receive harsher sanctions than white youth who exhibit similar risk levels, behavioral issues, and new criminal behaviors. We are further committed to improving the capacity of the state to report accurate information about the proportion of Maine's minority juveniles who come into contact with the juvenile justice system.

In 2006, the Muskie School of Public Service, in collaboration with the JJAG and the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC), developed and piloted a personalized, easily accessible training program designed specifically for MDOC staff on how to collect racial and ethnic data in a sensitive manner. The purpose of the training was to provide "best Practice" methods for juvenile justice services staff to sensitively collect and accurately record a juvenile's personal data when using the MDOC Family Intake Questionnaire and entering data into the Correctional Information System (CORIS).

The training impact on training participants will be assessed. As well we will assess "post intervention" changes in the quality of race and ethnicity data to assess the quality of the data set and the extent of integration of best practice into the data collection process.

In 2007 the JJAG plans to offer similar training to local law enforcement and continue to work toward fair and equitable treatment for all youth in the justice system.

Monitoring for Compliance to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act

We monitor for compliance with three of the four core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) of 2002. The three core protections addressed are: deinstitutionalization of status offenders, removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and separating adult offenders from juveniles in institutions. The fourth core protection is to reduce the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups who come into contact with the juvenile justice system and referenced elsewhere in this Report.

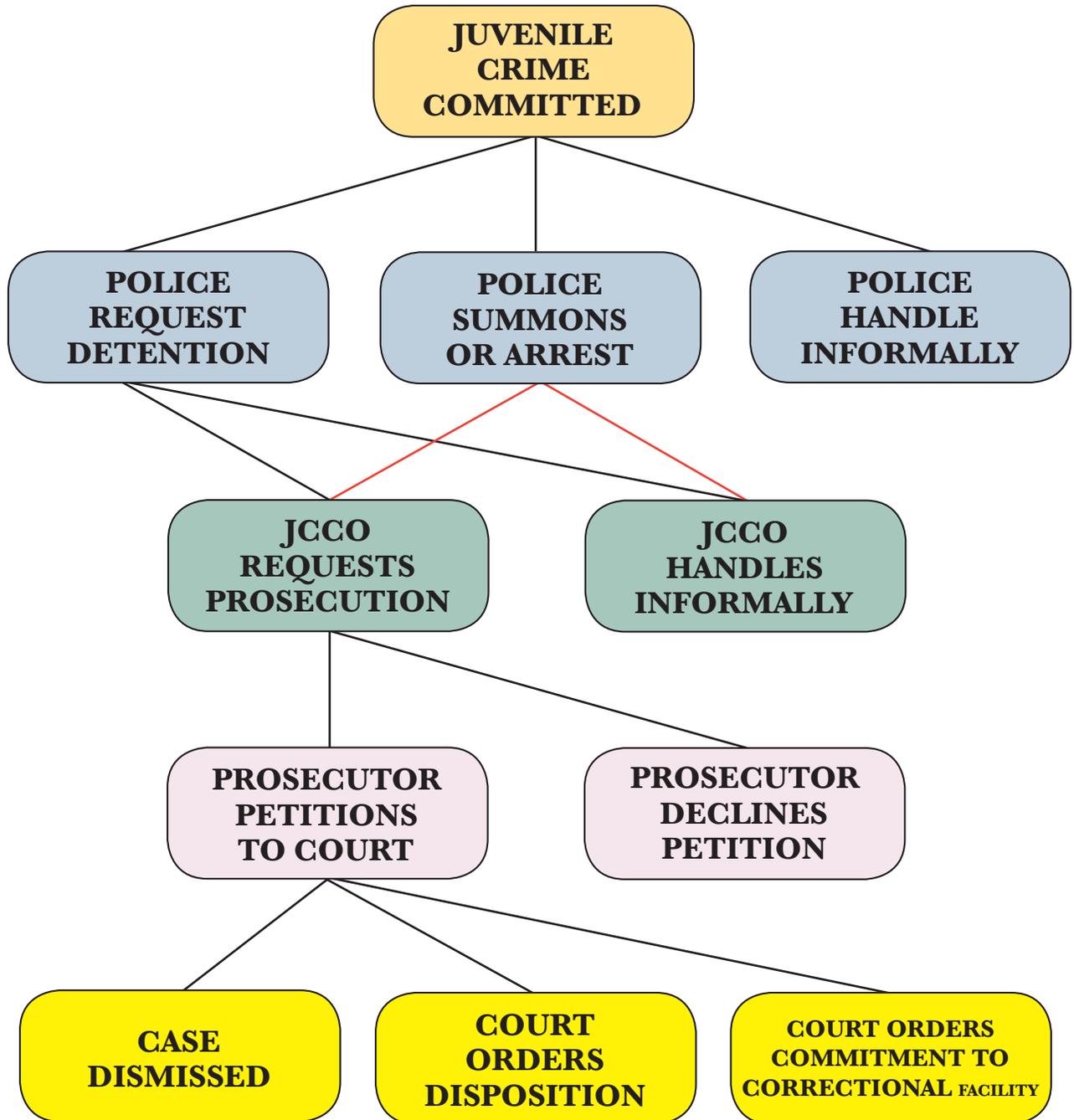
In order to receive grants under the JJDP Act, participating states must develop and implement a strategy for achieving and maintaining compliance with the core protections as part of its annual Formula Grants State Plan. A state's level of compliance with each of the core protections determines eligibility for its continued participation in the grants programs

The Maine Juvenile Code, Title 15, mirrors the Core Protections of the JJDP Act and Title 34- Section 1208 gives us the authority to monitor jails and lockups.

Our goal is to maintain compliance in all areas of the JJDP Act. Our approach is to educate all police departments, jails and development centers on the core protections of the Act and to be available to provide technical assistance where and whenever needed.



Decision Points for DMC Analysis



Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group assigns one of its members to represent the state of Maine on the Federal Advisory Committee (FACJJ). The FACJJ is an advisory body established by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act consisting of representatives from State Advisory Groups of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the 5 U.S. territories. The FACJJ provides states an opportunity to provide direct input into federal juvenile justice policy by making recommendations to the President, Congress and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

The FACJJ met throughout the year and made recommendations to the President, members of Congress and other governmental leaders that they renew their focus on and commitment to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention issues. The FACJJ reminded the President, Congress and other policy makers of the substantial progress that has been made in juvenile justice over the past 20 years, and that this progress is jeopardized to the extent that funding is not sustained at previous levels. Issues of particular concern include disproportionate minority contact, the disproportionate incidence of violent crimes in tribal youth communities, the explosion of crystal methamphetamine as a drug of choice for juveniles, and the use of computers to exploit children. OJJDP's ability to respond to these issues has been hampered by a decline in absolute funding, and further by the use of congressional earmarks that divert over 25% of the OJJDP budget to specific projects which are not necessarily consistent with the JJDP Act and are exempt from federal standards.

Legislative Changes to the Maine Juvenile Code during the 122nd Maine Legislature, 2006

Changes to the Maine Juvenile Code effective August 23, 2006 include:

Title 15 M.R.S.A. §1004 and Title 15 M.R.S.A. §3206 were amended to specify that the Maine Bail Code does not apply persons under 18 years of age who are arrested for violations of Titles 12 and 29-A that are not defined as juvenile crimes.

Title 15 M.R.S.A. §3203-A, sub-§7, A was amended to state that persons arrested for a juvenile crime but who have since attained the age of 21 years must be detained in an adult-serving facility without being separated. This will apply most often when an individual is arrested on an outstanding juvenile warrant after turning 21.

Title 15 M.R.S.A. §3205, sub-§2 likewise was amended to state that any detention or commitment of a person adjudicated of a juvenile offense after reaching age 21 must be in an adult section of a jail or other secure detention facility intended for adults.

Title 15 M.R.S.A. §3314, sub-§1, G specifies that mandatory minimum fines do not apply to juvenile adjudications.

Title 15 M.R.S.A. §3301, sub-§6-A was amended to allow release of the identity of a juvenile on informal adjustment or conditions of release to the Department of Health and Human Services if necessary to carry out the statutory functions of that agency.

Title 34-A M.R.S.A. §1216, sub-§1, G was amended to allow otherwise confidential information to state agencies engaged in statistical analysis for the purpose of improving the delivery of services to persons who might become mutual clients.

Contact the JJAG

111 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0111
207.287.4371
www.mainejjag.org

Kathryn L. McGloin
Juvenile Justice Specialist

Kathi Levesque
Compliance Monitor



111 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0111
www.mainejjag.org

This project was supported by Award Number 2006-JX-FX-0015, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.
Printed under appropriation # 013 03A F501-012