

CJABer

Criminal Justice Advisory Board Newsletter



Winter 2015

www.pccd.pa.gov

2015 CJAB Conference: Bridging Systems – “Connecting Criminal Justice, Behavioral Health and Treatment”

Discover new ideas and practical strategies that deliver real results on behavioral health and treatment issues that are placing a high demand on an already overburdened criminal justice system at the 2015 CJAB Conference on March 25 & 26, 2015, at the Days Inn, State College.

This free two-day event promises to be an excellent training and networking opportunity for our justice and behavioral health partners. The conference will be a mix of plenary and breakout sessions presented by experts such as Carl Dawson, M.S., M.A.C., who will be speaking on topics such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorders with the Substance Using Population and Addiction and the Physiological Effects on the Brain.

Recently added to the conference is Douglas B. Marlowe, Director of the Division on Law & Ethics Research at the Treatment Research Institute (TRI) and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine. Dr. Marlowe's research focuses on the role of coercion in drug abuse treatment, the effects of drug courts and other diversion programs for drug-abusing offenders, and behavioral treatments for substance abusers and criminal offenders.

Additionally, John Wetzel, Secretary of PA Department of Corrections will be talking about justice reinvestment initiatives to cut spending and invest back into the Commonwealth. Acting Chairman of the PA Board of Probation and Parole John Tuttle will present on the Board's re-entry efforts in conjunction with their partnership with county probation and parole offices. Gary Tennis, PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs Secretary will also explain how treatment works and how it fails as well as the use of Naloxone in reversing the effects of opioids.

Click [here](#) to register for the conference, view the two-day agendas, and get hotel information. If you have any problems accessing the registration information, please contact Ms. Denise Barry at (717) 265-8559.

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Look at your local data and track trends at the free [Criminal Justice Advisory Board Dashboards](#)

Third Annual Statewide Crisis Intervention Team Meeting Scheduled

The third annual Statewide Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Meeting will be held on March 24, 2015 at the Days Inn, State College. Centre County CIT spearheaded the establishment of the statewide CIT Meeting in 2013, after the successful launch of their own CIT program in 2011. In 2014, PCCD along with PA Department of Human Services Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and PA Chiefs of Police Association (PCPA) partnered with Centre County to provide this annual forum for statewide CIT efforts.

Current CIT members, newly established CIT groups and counties in the process of developing CIT programs or other specialized behavioral health training for law enforcement such as Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) are encouraged to attend.

During the meeting, the Pennsylvania Mental Health and Justice Center of Excellence (CoE) will present on future directions such as developing CIT curricula for other special populations. There will also be discussion of the new CIT for Veterans curriculum that was recently introduced in Lancaster County on September 25, 2014, as well as updates on the efforts of the nine newly established CIT and MHFA sites.

Centre County's goal was to bring together law enforcement officers trained in CIT from counties across the Commonwealth to discuss best practices, challenges, and opportunities and in March 2013, Centre County hosted the first Statewide CIT Meeting. In 2014, PCCD, OMHSAS, and PCPA was invited to co-sponsor the event with Centre County, further underscoring PCCD's commitment in providing the necessary training to law enforcement and justice practitioners to effectively engage with an individual in crisis. Specialized behavioral health training efforts such as CIT, are proven to reduce incidents of arrest, injuries to officers and consumers and increase public safety. Eighteen counties attended the two-day meeting in March 2014, up from the seven counties in the first year.

This event is a great opportunity for attendees to network with trained officers and other programs from across the Commonwealth and learn from their successes and challenges. In addition, this event provides the CoE with the opportunity to enhance their ability to provide technical assistance to justice and behavioral health professionals, as we work towards the expansion of CIT and MHFA in Pennsylvania. For registration, agenda and hotel information, please visit [Third Annual Statewide CIT Meeting](#).



Participants at last year's statewide CIT Meeting watching a training video for law enforcement.

PCCD's Re-Entry Coordinator Recognized by Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board

The Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) administers federal and state monies that fund programs for adults, dislocated workers, and young people through the PA CareerLink® of Lancaster County and other contractors.

The PA CareerLink® is a one-stop service center where 15 different employment, education and training, and social service organizations provide services to employers, jobseekers, and people who are seeking to increase their skills portfolios.

Every year, the Lancaster County WIB recognizes individuals or groups who have made major contributions to the workforce system during the year. These awards are made in three categories: Building Bridges in our Community, Expanding our Horizons, and Contribution to the Mission Award.

One of this year's winners for the Building Bridges in our Community Award is PCCD's own Re-Entry Coordinator Charla Plaines. Charla acts as a liaison among state agencies, county and local policy makers, CJABs, and community and faith-based organizations on how to define re-entry, reduce recidivism, and improve collaborations with community-based service providers. She has worked with 20 re-entry coalitions and groups across the Commonwealth and is happy to announce there is a County Offender Re-Entry planning grant opportunity being released very soon. Please see the last page of the newsletter for more information. Congratulations Charla!



PCCD Re-Entry Coordinator Charla Plaines (front, left) accepting the Building Bridges in Our Community Award.

Around the Counties ...

Philadelphia Police Department Joins National Task Force



Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey and President Barack Obama during a meeting held at the White House Complex in Washington D. C. on Monday, Dec. 1, 2014. (Associated Press Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

Philadelphia Police Commissioner and Philadelphia County CJAB member Charles H. Ramsey has been appointed by President Barrack Obama to co-chair the Task Force on 21st Century Policy. He will be working with co-chair Laurie Robinson, a professor at George Mason University and former U.S. Attorney General. The group is being convened to provide recommendations for local police departments on how police may increase transparency and build community trust, particularly in communities of color. The goal of Philadelphia's involvement in the project is to develop action steps for outreach by police departments, such as police training and education, developing policies on crime fighting tactics and the use of technology such as body cameras. It is expected that the task force will issue a report including recommendations and findings in April 2015.

In an effort to test the use of technology, the Philadelphia Police Department has launched a pilot program in which over thirty officers from the Twenty Second District have volunteered to wear body cameras for a period of six months, testing six different models. The cameras will record interactions with citizens when responding to incidents or stopping citizens on the street. Officers must inform those with whom they interact about use of the camera. By law, officers will be required to stop recording when they are entering a home and a resident has asked them not to use the camera. The district was selected to pilot the project due to its high volume of police response and citizen interaction.

According to a department spokesperson, Philadelphia agreed to participate in the project because officials believe that body cameras are the future of policing and they wanted to be at the forefront of the movement.

Blair County CJAB Gives Back

During their annual Strategic Planning Retreat, the Blair County CJAB, chaired by President Judge Jolene Grubb Kopriva, decided they wanted to become more involved in community projects.

Several options were discussed and the Board decided to participate in the Blair County Out of the Darkness Walk, which supports the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), by helping to support local and national suicide prevention and awareness programs.

The Blair County Out of the Darkness Walk is one of more than 360 Out of the Darkness Community Walks that were held nationwide this past fall.

The Blair County walk was held on September 27, 2014, in Altoona Pennsylvania. Several members of the Blair County CJAB participated and collected donations for the cause. To date, the Blair County Out of the Darkness walk has raised nearly \$10,000.



On left, PCCD Commissioner, Blair County CJAB member and walk participant Blair County Court of Common Pleas Judge Elizabeth A. Doyle



On right, CJAB members and walk participants Theresa Rudy, Director, Mental Health Program Blair County Department of Social Services and Bonnie Clark, VJO Coordinator, Altoona VA Medical Center



From Left to right, Commissioner Chris Reilly, President Commissioner Steve Chronister, First Assistant District Attorney Tim Barker, Honorable John S. Kennedy, and Commissioner Doug Hoke

York County CJAB-Supported Priority, Target 25 Initiative, Nationally Recognized

York County's DUI Treatment Court and their Target 25 initiative was recognized by the Governors Highway Safety Association with the Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award with Honorable John S. Kennedy publicly presenting the award to the county's Board of Commissioners on December 10, 2014.

Prior to 2012 when Target 25 was implemented, about one quarter of York County DUI offenders were committing additional DUIs while out on bail for their original offense. In 2011, 125 people accounted for 600 repeat DUI arrests.

To address the additional DUIs, the Target 25 initiative was created, placing those individuals on supervised bail to include

alcohol monitoring. In addition to Target 25, York County streamlined their DUI case processing, cutting wait times so that people are evaluated for addiction quickly and get into treatment as soon as possible. According to county officials, people spend less time on bail, where it can be tempting to drink and drive again. Together with their existing DUI Treatment Court, these two changes have comprehensively reworked how York County DUIs are dealt with post-arrest.

SUCSESSES OF TARGET 25 AND STREAMLINING DUI CASE PROCESSING

- **90% reduction in number of DUI offenders arrested for another DUI within the same year.**
- **A decline in the percentage of victims of DUI from 18% in 2011 down to 6% in 2013.**
- **A decline in the number of alcohol-related crashes from 506 in 2011 down to 404 in 2013.**
- **73% of those in Target 25 voluntarily remained in treatment programs after their bail conditions were discharged.**

What's next for York County? Officials report their CJAB is conducting a cost-benefit analysis of their DUI Court in order to show the effectiveness of the program. In addition, York County has the highest number of drug DUIs in the Commonwealth. Officials believe it's because they look for them – York County has a number of law enforcement officers trained in recognizing the signs of driving under the influence of drugs other than alcohol. There is a portion of the Target 25 population that turns to drug use in lieu of drinking to circumvent alcohol monitoring. One of the CJAB's next tasks is to identify and implement strategies to deal with those realities. Lastly, the CJAB is interested in investigating a step-down treatment option for DUI clientele, as a way to better meet treatment needs.

Additionally, York County is working with Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, who originally nominated them for the award, to evaluate the program to see if it can be replicated statewide.

According to the Governors Highway Safety Association website, the Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award recognizes notable achievements in the field of highway safety during the prior calendar year by individuals, coalitions, organizations, nonprofit groups, businesses, media, government agencies, universities, or programs.

The Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee

The Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC) was recently established by Act 28 of 2014 to advise the Commission on the development and promotion of children's advocacy centers (CACs) and multidisciplinary investigative teams (MDITs) operating in the Commonwealth. An annual, dedicated state appropriation has been created by the General Assembly to support these services.

Comprised of experts in child abuse-related issues, the CACAC is tasked by the Act to advise the Commission in the distribution of grants to support both existing and developing CACs and MDITs. The CACAC is using a report developed by the Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice and Research at the University of Pennsylvania to facilitate its deliberations on where additional services should be offered in the Commonwealth. The study can be found on the CACAC's webpage [here](#).

What is a CAC? A CAC provides state-of-the-art treatment for the victims of child sexual abuse and child abuse. They coordinate medical care, treatment and other social services for victims while gathering evidence, through age-appropriate forensic interviewing and other methods to build an effective case against the alleged offender. By bringing medical professionals, social workers, prosecutors and police who specialize in child sexual abuse together under one roof, CACs are the most effective way to bring a perpetrator to justice and ensure that children receive the services that they need to begin healing.

Currently, there are 23 CACs recognized by the National Children's Alliance offering these state-of-the-art services in Pennsylvania. The CACAC's goal is to continue to expand access to CACs and increase their availability to serve child victims of physical and sexual abuse.

What is a MDIT? Per 23 Pa.C.S. §6365 (relating to services for prevention, investigation and treatment of child abuse), a MDIT is used to coordinate child abuse investigations between county agencies and law enforcement. The MDIT is to consist of those individuals and agencies responsible for investigating the abuse or for providing services to the child and shall at a minimum include a health care provider, county caseworker and law enforcement official. Every county agency and the district attorney is required to develop a protocol for the convening of MDITs for any case of child abuse by a perpetrator involving crimes against children which are set forth in 23 Pa.C.S. §6340(a)(9) and (10) (relating to release of information in confidential reports). The protocol shall include any other standards and procedures to avoid duplication of fact-finding efforts and interviews to minimize the trauma to the child.

Current law mandates that every county in the Commonwealth is to have a functioning MDIT in place. The district attorney is required to convene the MDIT team in accordance with the protocol. The CACAC is working with the PA District Attorney's Association to reach out to those counties that may need assistance in developing or enhancing their MDIT.

If you have any questions or interest in this issue, please feel free to contact Christina Cosgrove-Rooks of PCCD's staff at ccosgrove@pa.gov or 717-265-8478 for more information about the funding available for CACs and MDITs in your area.

pa virtual training network

In January 2015, the Pennsylvania Virtual Training Network (PAVTN), started its fourth year with a new look and features. The PAVTN provides 30 online courses to over 12,000 criminal justice and law enforcement users. The redesigned web site places the courses in two curriculums: Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) and the PAVTN.



The MPOETC Curriculum contains the mandated courses for police officers under PA ACT 180. For 2015, MPOETC requires 12 hours of training. Nine of those 12 hours are provided in three mandated courses: *Human Trafficking (15-423)*; *Legal Updates (15-201)*; and *Civil Law (15-202)*. An additional three-hour elective course, *Domestic Violence (15-802)*, allows officers to fulfill the required 12 hours online. In addition, eight courses from 2013/14 are still available for Police Officers that still need to meet the previous years' mandates.

The PAVTN Curriculum is divided into three groups. To read more about these three groups and PAVTN, click [here](#).

PCCD Co-Sponsors Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania's Home Sweet Home Conference



PCCD Commissioner James Turner (standing) facilitated the presentation between housing authorities and CJABs. Presenters were left to right: Robert Merwine, Director of Office of Criminal Justice System Improvements, PCCD; Kelly Evans of PA Board of Probation and Parole; Bruce Quigley, Executive Director, Union County Housing Authority; Preston Boop, County Commissioner, Union County CJAB; Steve Fischer, Executive Director, Chester City Housing Authority; Jenn McConnell, PCCD, representing Columbia County CJAB; Rich Kisner, Executive Director, Columbia County Housing Authority; and Joel Johnson, Executive Director, Montgomery County Housing Authority.

PCCD along with our partner, the Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS), helped sponsor the first day of the PA Housing Alliance annual Homes within Reach conference on November 17, 2014. This was the fourth year that PCCD and OMHSAS partnered to co-sponsor the one-day justice sessions at the Homes within Reach Conference.

The day incorporated presentations tailored to the interests of criminal justice professionals including using HealthChoices Reinvestment resources to support forensic housing, challenges and successes in providing housing to domestic violence survivors, re-entry coalitions, building bridges between housing authorities and CJABs, along with a look into re-entry from both a State and county perspective.

To access resources from presentations given at the conference, [click here](#).



The day opened with a luncheon panel discussing re-entry. Presenters were left to right: Honorable Judge A. Zottola of Allegheny County; Ed Sweeney, Director of Corrections, Lehigh County; and Secretary John E. Wetzel, PA Department of Corrections.

KCIT is available to respond in the aftermath of:

- Acts of terrorism
- Crimes affecting children (i.e. school shootings)
- Workplace shootings
- Arson
- Homicides related to domestic violence
- Multiple deaths from any criminal activity
- Robbery

Keystone Crisis Intervention Team (KCIT) is Available to Assist Communities and Citizens with the Aftermath of Traumatic Events

As we hear the news each day we are faced with stories of traumatic events caused by crime --- domestic violence homicides, armed robberies, arson fires and mass shootings. These events rarely affect a single person, but ripple out into the broader community, causing shock and effects similar to paralysis on a wide scale. It is human nature to want to believe that such terrible things happen in *other communities*. The reality is that they can happen anywhere to anyone.

Over the last 15 years, Pennsylvania has been touched by several incidents of mass violence. Some, like the downing of Flight 97 in Somerset County by hijackers on September 11, 2001, the Nickel Mines Amish School Shootings in 2006, and most recently, the April 2014 knife attacks at a Westmoreland County High School attracted national and international attention. Many other violent incidents occurred in our Commonwealth during this time period that did not make the headlines.

Regardless of whether anyone was watching, there was a group of trained, dedicated and seasoned professionals quietly responding to these communities traumatized by crime --- the Keystone Crisis Intervention Team (KCIT). [Click here](#) to continue reading.

Blair County's Charmayne Raia Awarded the Louis J. Presenza Distinguished Service Award at the 2014 PADCP Annual Conference

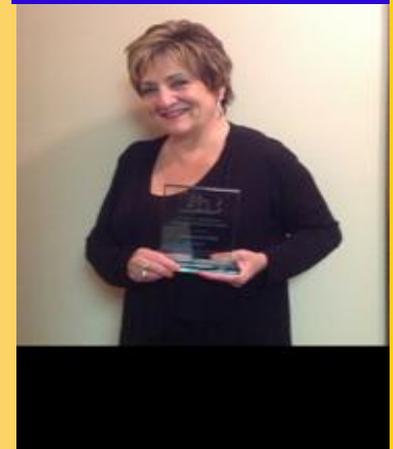
Charmayne Raia was awarded the 2014 Louis J. Presenza Distinguished Service Award at this year's annual Pennsylvania Association of Drug Court Professionals (PADCP) conference.

The Louis J. Presenza Distinguished Service Award is intended to recognize an individual who has shown extraordinary leadership and support of those in the problem solving court field in Pennsylvania.

Charmayne began her work in the drug and alcohol field back in 1990, the same year an inpatient treatment program began in the Blair County Prison where she spearheaded an assessment team to help develop the new program. When the Blair County Drug Court developed, this assessment team graciously took on the added responsibility of assessing individuals for entry into the problem-solving court. Charmayne charted the protocol by navigating the system of providers and multiple roles in the criminal justices system for both the Drug Court and prison inpatient treatment program, both in full swing and operation today due to her pioneer efforts.

Click [here](#) to continue to read about Blair County's Charmayne Raia.

Blair County's Charmayne Raia



Medicaid Has Been Expanded, To the Benefit of County Criminal Justice Systems

All low-income Pennsylvanians are eligible for Medicaid coverage now that Medicaid has been expanded in the Commonwealth. As of January 1, 2015, single people whose annual income is \$16,108 or less qualify for Medicaid on the basis of their income alone. There is no longer a requirement that they also fit into a particular category, such as being disabled or pregnant. (Income limits for larger households may be found at <http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Public/General%20DHS/FPL.pdf>.) Unless individuals are undocumented immigrants, they are eligible for Medicaid.

The implications for county criminal justice systems are profound. For the first time, virtually everyone will have insurance to pay for medication and treatment in the community – for mental health, substance abuse, and physical health issues. Many individuals now detained in pretrial status can be released to treatment instead of residing in the county jail at taxpayer expense. Through 2016, the federal government pays 100 percent of the cost of Medicaid for people who are newly eligible; that percentage declines to 90 percent in 2020, where it will remain. Individuals receiving medications in jail will be able to purchase those medications in the community. Once coverage becomes widespread, people entering incarceration will be healthier; at present, many are less healthy than the general population and need significant medical care while incarcerated.

The small percentage of inmates who have incomes above the Medicaid cut-off will also have access to health insurance, through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace. These individuals will also be able to pay for treatment and medications in the community. In addition, unlike Medicaid, their insurance will remain in effect while they are detained in pretrial status; Marketplace coverage continues until sentencing.

Counties should act now to get the maximum benefit from the new health care landscape. CJABs should develop plans for enrolling incarcerated individuals in benefits, in consultation with their local County Assistance Offices, community health centers, and treatment providers. (Inmates can be enrolled in Medicaid for coverage that becomes effective when they are released. Incarcerated individuals cannot apply for ACA Marketplace coverage.) Counties that have participated in Cross-System Mapping workshops should revisit the mapping reports to determine the points where individuals can be enrolled in health insurance coverage and diverted from the criminal justice system into treatment. Counties that are participating in the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) pilot should investigate early enrollment in Medicaid for everyone being released from custody, not only those going into residential drug treatment.

At the 2015 CJAB Conference Bridging Systems, there will be additional information and presentations with respect to these issues. If you have questions or need assistance in the meantime, contact Maureen Barden at the Pennsylvania Health Law Project by email at maureenbarden@phlp.org or phone at 215-287-4238.



To submit your event to PCCD's Calendar of Events, complete and submit this [form](#).

Calendar of Events

2015
Third Annual Statewide Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Conference
March 24, 2015 at Days Inn, State College, Contact your CJAB Representative for more details.

2015 CJAB Conference: Bridging Systems – “Connecting Criminal Justice, Behavioral Health and Treatment”
March 25-26, 2015 at Days Inn, State College, Contact your CJAB Representative for more details.

Current PCCD Funding Opportunities

Regional Police Assistance Grant Program - The purpose of these funds are to improve the delivery of public safety services through intergovernmental cooperation, by facilitating the formation of full-time, full service regional police departments.

This grant program will provide financial aid to assist in the formation of new Regional Police Departments and for established Regional Police Departments to expand their department or services by adding an additional municipality(s).

Applicants may be any municipality – a city, borough, township, home-rule municipality, or county. Applicants may also be a public or quasi-public body, or its representative, duly authorized to act on behalf of one or more municipalities.

Upcoming PCCD Funding Opportunities

County Offender Re-Entry Planning Grants – These grants will help counties create an offender re-entry plan that will become a section of their local comprehensive criminal justice strategic plan.

County based offender re-entry plans should include an assessment of offender policies and practices upon arrest; identify risk and needs assessment tool needs or used; identify partnering re-entry service providers; identify gaps in offender re-entry services; and have strategies that address housing, drug and alcohol, mental health, education, employment and other services that assist returning offenders and their families. Preference will be given to those who have identified re-entry as a priority in their strategic plan.



Click here for other [current PCCD Open Funding Opportunities](#)

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

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