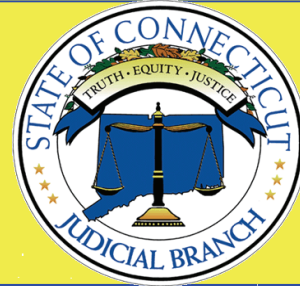


CSSD Chronicle

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch
Court Support Services Division
Wednesday, July 6, 2011



Connecticut Selected for Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project

In a recent memo to CSSD staff, CSSD Executive Bill Carbone announced that Connecticut has been selected as one of four states to participate in the Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project (JJSIP) developed by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University. This project is designed to help states improve outcomes for juvenile offenders by better translating knowledge on “what works” into everyday practice and policy.

JJSIP is an 18-month long project of intensive training, consultation, and technical assistance provided by national experts in the field of juvenile justice, evidence-based practices, and risk reduction. Goals of the project include reduced recidivism among juvenile offenders, reduced use of detention and other forms of out-of-home placement, reduced racial and ethnic disparities, increased probation completion rates, more efficient use of program resources, better school performance and reduced mental health symptoms and substance abuse among Connecticut juveniles and youth. The project will initially focus on a demonstration site, Hartford, and will eventually be implemented throughout the state.

CSSD, in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families (DCF), submitted a letter of interest and was among seven jurisdictions invited to submit a full application. By partnering with DCF

“The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform... sees the promise for Connecticut in awarding us this JJSIP opportunity.”—William Carbone, Exec. Director, CSSD

on this project, the full range of prevention, intervention, and aftercare services provided to juvenile-justice involved and

at-risk children in Connecticut will be targeted for technical assistance, and will stand to improve, to tremendous benefit to the clients themselves, their families, neighborhoods, and the citizens of the state.

This project will be spearheaded by eight colleagues from all cross-sections of CSSD and DCF:

- Julie Revaz-Program Manager, CSSD Juvenile Programs & Services Unit (Project Leader)
- Peter Kochol-Program Manager, CSSD Center for Research, Program Assessment, and Quality Improvement
- Tasha Hunt-Regional Manager, CSSD Juvenile Probation
- Antonio Donis-Director, DCF Parole Services

- Honorable Christine Keller-Chief Administrative Judge, Juvenile Matters
- Steve Grant, CSSD Director, Family and Juvenile Services
- Geoffrey Scales-Supervisor, CSSD Juvenile Probation (Hartford)
- Jamie Lehane-Regional Behavior Health Program Director, DCF
- Elisabeth Cannata- Vice President of Community-Based Family Services and Practice Innovation at Wheeler Clinic



Carbone concluded his memo with praise for those who made the project award possible: “Through the hard work of staff at CSSD and

DCF and contracted providers, great strides have been made towards system reform and risk reduction. The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform recognized the effort, dedication, and continued commitment to improving outcomes for juvenile offenders, and sees the promise for Connecticut in providing a national example in awarding us this JJSIP opportunity.”

For more information on the JJSIP project, please visit their website at <http://cjjr.georgetown.edu/jjsip/jjsip.html> or contact CSSD Program Manager Julie Revaz at Julie.Revaz@jud.ct.gov.



The CSSD Chronicle is a regular publication of information and news about the Court Support Services Division. Questions or comments on this edition, or suggestions for future articles, can be directed to Linda.Grzeika@jud.ct.gov