

The Office of
Juvenile Justice
protects the
public by
providing safe
and effective
individualized
services to
youth, who will
become
productive, law-
abiding citizens.



2011 Annual Report

DPS&C Youth Services

Office of Juvenile Justice

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Welcome



The Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) is a young agency on the move – after only eight years as a cabinet-level entity we have come a long way, transforming our system from top to bottom. OJJ serves our state’s most at-risk youth and their families; the changes in our agency’s culture, mission and operations have taken place for one reason only: to provide better services and ultimately, better outcomes for our youth and their families.

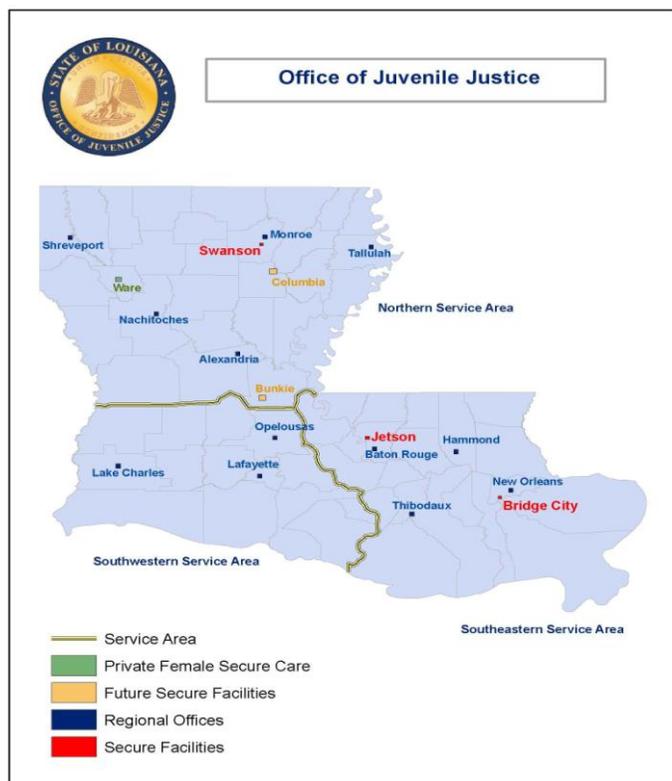
OJJ provides services for youth placed in our care and custody by the court system. Youth may be assigned for probation supervision or custody. The majority of youth in the OJJ system remain in their homes, and receive community-based services including probation and parole supervision, or non-secure, out-of-home residential placement. A smaller number of youth are housed in one of our three secure care facilities. Our goal is to provide a seamless continuum of care for adjudicated youth and their families.

This year’s report will provide data that shine a light on the work being done by our staff every day to meet our mission: protecting the public while helping the youth in our care to become productive, law-abiding citizens. We work diligently and smarter, providing evidence-based programming and greater accountability; we unendingly strive for excellence and we reach out to the community to further our mission through education and teaching our youth to give back to their community through restorative justice projects.

We are dedicated to our work, because we all recognize the importance of our success. The average citizen will never have contact with the juvenile justice system, and will be unaware that our work has an effect on everyone in our state. Our efforts to turn delinquent youth away from a future of crime and incarceration, and toward a lifetime of productive citizenship, is among the most important tasks within the arena of public service. Our investment in youthful offenders pays great dividends not only for the individual but also for society at large.

When our youth succeed, we all succeed.

Dr. Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary



AGENCY STRUCTURE

Executive Office - Deputy Secretary
Auditor
Legal Services
Grants Administration
Health Services
Operations

Office of Management and Finance –
Undersecretary
Budget and Accounting
Contracts and Grants
Human Resources
Information Technology
Procurement

Continuous Quality Improvement
Services (CQIS) – Chief of Operations
Quality Assurance
Investigative Services
Safety Services/Risk
Management

Community-Based Services – Deputy
Assistant Secretary
Probation and Parole Field
Offices
Interstate Compact on
Juveniles
Non-Secure Residential
Programs

Intergovernmental Relations,
Communications and Training –
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Intergovernmental Liaison
Communications Office
Family Liaison Services
Staff Development

Secure Care and Treatment – Deputy
Assistant Secretary
Education Services
Secure Care Facilities
Treatment Services for Secure

Mission and Vision

Mission

The Office of Juvenile Justice protects the public by providing safe and effective individualized services to youth, who will become productive, law-abiding citizens.

Vision

OJJ is a quality system of care which embraces partnerships with families, communities and stakeholders to assist youth in redirecting their lives toward responsible citizenship.

Guiding Principles:

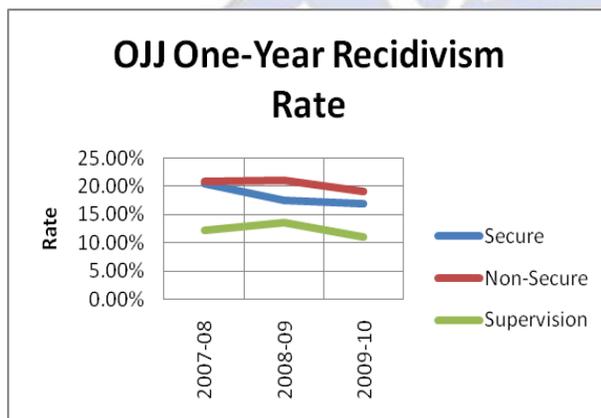
- Honesty** To be honest; do everything with integrity.
- Achievement** To be outcome-oriented in achieving results consistent with our mission.
- Versatility** To value, promote and support diversity and cultural competence.
- Ethical** To be ethical; to do the right thing, both legally and morally.
- Focused** To be focused on empowering people to succeed.
- Accountable** To be accountable for the effective and efficient management of resources.
- Informed** To be informed and guided in our decisions by appropriate and valid data.
- Team players** To be an effective and efficient team of professionals.
- Harmonious** To be inclusive – involve all parties, both external and internal, who need to be part of the process.

HAVE FAITH: Together we help change lives.

OJJ implementing systemic reform

Decrease in Recidivism

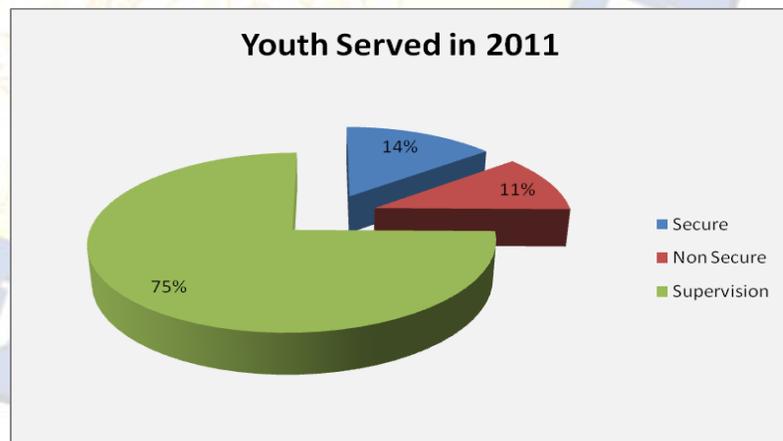
We are pleased to report a second year with a decrease in recidivism. Recidivism is one of several outcome measures that determine the juvenile justice system's effectiveness in rehabilitating youth. The most current one-year rate which reflects youth who recidivate, or re-offend, within one year of discharge from custody or probation, decreased overall to a 13.1 rate—a 2.2 percent reduction in the recidivism rate. This means that fewer youth reoffend after release from OJJ care.



The 2011 analysis indicates a .7 percent decrease in the one-year rate for secure care, which we attribute to implementation of the therapeutic model in our facilities. The rate one year after discharge from non-secure care decreased by 2 percent from the last reporting period. And the one-year rate for supervision (those on probation or parole) youth decreased by 2.5 percent. It is a tremendous accomplishment that OJJ's overall recidivism rate now stands at 13.1 percent and that all three classifications – secure, non-secure and

supervision - have seen decreases in the rate of recidivism.

The steady decrease in recidivism is attributable to the reform of Louisiana's juvenile justice system, which provides for appropriate placement and treatment of the youth we serve. A major reform component was OJJ's implementation of the Structured Assessment for Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) instrument which identifies targeted need areas that are incorporated into the youth's individual treatment plan. The SAVRY also identifies the youth's risk level, allowing for appropriate placement within OJJ's continuum of care. Additionally, service coordination has provided consistency and individual case management and oversight of the youths' cases. We also attribute these positive numbers to effective programming both in our secure care facilities and in community-based services.



The bottom line is that OJJ combined systemic reforms that include therapeutic treatment services, service coordination, and use of an evidence-based assessment tool, the SAVRY. Thus, the desired effect is becoming a reality—better outcomes for our at-risk youth.

OJJ Policies

OJJ staff work diligently to continuously update policy through creation and revision of policies, rescinding outdated policies, the required annual review of certain policies and issuance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

In 2011 produced:

- 116 YS policies approved
- 31 YS policies rescinded
- 44 YS policy annual reviews issued
- 23 Central Office SOP's approved

Safety

In 2011, the CQIS section assumed the responsibility for oversight of the Safety Program for Community Based Services and Central Office, in addition to the already established oversight of secure facilities, totaling 15 sites. Assistance was provided to each site for the preparation of full Office of Risk Management (ORM) audits, in addition to routine safety matters/inspections and quarterly audits. In 2011 the Central Office Safety Plan was created, in addition to revisions to the Safety Program Manual.

Sex Offenders

After obtaining the required software and training, OJJ now has the ability to input sex offender registration information directly into the Offender Watch system. This ensures that sex offenders exiting facilities are pre-registered.

ACA accreditation

In 2011, OJJ's Community-Based Services and two secure care facilities participated in American Correctional Association (ACA) audits and gained accreditation. Once recommended for accreditation by the auditors, the department must appear at an ACA meeting for a hearing prior to receiving final approval for accreditation. Accreditation is valid for three years.

OJJ's Community-Based Services (Probation and Parole) unit was re-accredited by ACA attaining 100 percent compliance on all applicable mandatory and non-mandatory standards.

For secure care facilities, 38 mandatory and 329 non-mandatory standards cover all aspects of the facility, including treatment, safety, medical and mental health care, as well as environmental factors. Both Swanson Center for Youth and Jetson Center for Youth were accredited in 2011. Jetson Center for Youth was recommended after an audit found the facility 100 percent compliant on 367 separate standards. Jetson was last re-accredited in 2003. Auditors found Swanson to be in 100 percent compliance on 38 mandatory standards and 97.45 percent compliant on 329 non-mandatory standards. Swanson was last re-accredited in 2000.

The entire agency worked to support this very important recognition. CQIS staff worked with the three secure care facilities in the development of files on the ACA standards and collection of appropriate documentation for those files. Staff made routine technical assistance visits to the facilities throughout the year, providing suggestions for improvement on the files. CQIS staff were on-site for the actual audits, providing assistance to the auditors and staff.

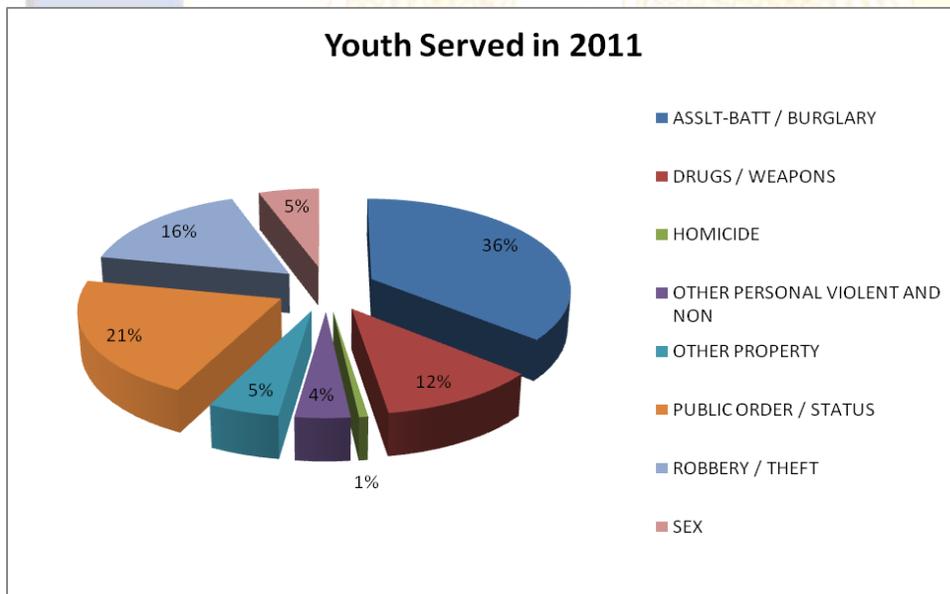
ACA is the oldest and largest correctional association in the world, serving all disciplines within the profession. ACA's greatest strength is development of national standards and implementation of the accreditation process. Through accreditation, agencies are able to maintain a balance between protecting the public and providing an environment that safeguards the life, health and safety of staff and offenders. ACA standards functions as a management tool for over 1,500 correctional agencies throughout the nation.

EPICS

Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS), a training program developed by the University of Cincinnati, was initiated with staff in the Community-Based Services office in Hammond, as a pilot program. EPICS is a model developed by Dr. Edward Latessa and the University of Cincinnati School of Criminal Justice, that targets criminogenic needs of higher risk offenders and teaches probation and parole officers (PPOs) how to apply the principles of effective intervention to community supervision practices. The framework assists with development and implementation of case management plans to target the criminogenic (crime producing) needs of higher risk youth. Probation officers learn a structured approach to their interactions with the youth, which includes monitoring, referrals, and face-to-face interactions to provide the appropriate treatment interventions. The EPICS model assists by giving PPOs the tools they need to be “agents of change.”

Motivation Interviewing

OJJ held training on supervision of Motivational Interviewing (MI) to help build staffs’ skills in coaching and reinforcing MI skills and strategies. The training focused on quality assurance around MI and tying it to the SAVRY implementation efforts. LSUHSC School of Public Health and Louisiana Models for Change shared a number of evaluation/Quality Assurance measures and structured implementation methods. The training is designed for treatment directors, group leaders and supervisors who use and supervise the use of MI. Approximately 65 supervisors from secure care facilities and regional offices were trained on these supervision techniques in 2011. All OJJ probation officers have been trained in MI.



Data Warehouse

In 2011, a new SAS Stored Process platform was created to provide a format for sharing data and providing a single repository for all agency data analysis that is produced by the SAS technology. SAS is a technology infrastructure supporting data

management, analytics and reporting. Working with the OJJ Data Warehouse technology has enabled the Continuous Quality Improvement Section (CQIS) to help provide an informal quality assurance process to the agency. This process identifies deficiencies in our current data collection process and enables our agency to refine our analysis process, thereby producing more accurate reporting. The CQIS data warehouse platform assists in data collection with outside agencies and vendors, such as the

ongoing Disproportionate Minority Contact initiative and providing annual survey data for ACA, Council

of Juvenile Correctional Administrators, La. Commission on Law Enforcement, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the Picard Center for Child Development and Lifelong Learning, Performance Based Standards, United States Census Bureau, KIDS COUNT, local jurisdictions and Prison Rape Elimination Act reporting. This platform will be further enhanced in 2012.

In 2011 CQIS took over the OJJ Indicator

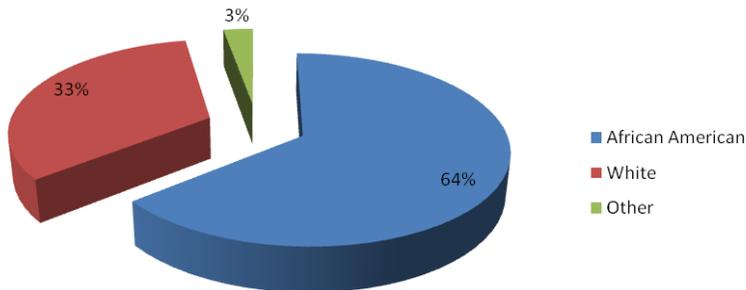
quarterly reporting from the VERA Institute revising our data analysis to bring this capability in-house.

Working with Dr. Gina Vincent, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) in 2011 enabled CQIS to produce a comprehensive reporting mechanism for analysis of our evidence based SAVRY assessment instrument. The analysis and data warehouse platform have developed into a model for other users of the SAVRY within Louisiana and has been recognized by NCJJ as a model for other states to follow.

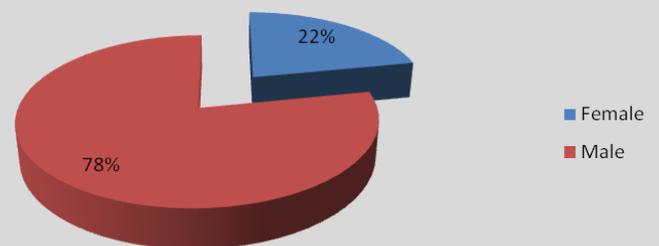
Redesigned Quality Assurance Process

CQIS was charged with creating new Quality Assurance (QA) process that focuses on outcome measures rather than process measures. Staff conducted extensive research on the components of an effective QA process, how to formulate outcome measures, etc. Numerous meetings were held on the standard design, definitions and the actual outcome measures. In December, 2011, the QA Standards for Secure Care were completed. Probation/Parole Standards are due to be completed in early 2012. The new process is set to begin in 2012.

**Youth Served in 2011
by Race**



**Youth Served in 2011
by Gender**



OJJ achieving efficiencies and greater accountability

Improved Performance of Contracts – RFPs, SOPs and CPCs!

CQIS staff conducted extensive research on evidence-based and best practices regarding OJJ's various contract services to youth. These findings, along with the *Principles of Effective Intervention* were incorporated into the agency's Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for contract services including residential, foster care, mentor, tracker, day treatment, transitional living, and psychiatric evaluations. CQIS staff revised the agency's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) manual for contract providers to include requirements outlined in the revised RFPs. Additionally, the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requirements were included in the manual revision.

The Correctional Programs Checklist (CPC) is a tool developed to assess correctional intervention programs and ascertain how closely they meet known principles of effective intervention which are proven to reduce recidivism. OJJ implemented use of the CPC in 2010, which provides a roadmap for improvement and produces better outcomes for our youth. By 2011, CQIS conducted the CPC Evaluation on contract treatment providers. Teleconferences were held with many providers to answer questions about the process. A final report of findings was distributed to each provider, which in turn, submitted corrective action plans to improve operations and comply with the requirements of the CPC.

A database was created to track the CPC scores and management results in order to effectively track the progress of provider's scores, as well as to identify areas where the agency may need to focus attention or provide technical assistance to providers. CQIS staff worked with IT staff on the database design, which automatically calculates totals and allows for trending and reporting.

Inventory

In 2011, Wasp Inventory Control, a computerized inventory system, was implemented at SCY and JCY. BCCY is slated for Wasp installation in early 2012. We are now able to use scanners or a computer to add, remove, move, and check inventory counts by location including the cafeterias. This system allows the entire agency to use one centralized system to maintain inventory throughout all facilities. Individuals executing purchase orders are now able to readily view the quantity of the needed item already in house. This allows the agency to reduce waste and obsolescence. Once completely in place, this system will also allow the agency to more easily control the volume of individual items throughout the system and to ensure consistency processes across facilities. Ultimately, the Wasp system will save time for employees, reduce waste, and manage assets resulting in cost savings to the agency.

Louisiana Kids Dashboard

OJJ is excited to partner with the Louisiana Supreme Court, the Department of Health and Hospitals, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Education, and community leaders in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to focus on the challenges Louisiana children face. This partnership is called the Louisiana Kids' Dashboard. At the kickoff event, a forum entitled Workshop on

the Future of Louisiana Kids, each agency committed to working collaboratively toward improving Louisiana's outcomes for youth and presented information to be included in a "dashboard".

This Dashboard identifies a set of data-driven outcome measures, such as rates of childhood obesity, high school graduation rates, recidivism rates among juvenile offenders, and rates of repeated incidents of child maltreatment, among others. The goal is to ensure that state resources are being used effectively to improve the well-being of Louisiana's children. This partnership is designed to better focus statewide policy and will be managed by the Louisiana Children's Cabinet Advisory Board. We support the tracking of indicators across the child-serving agencies, providing the ability to monitor our progress toward improvement in the continuum of care within the juvenile justice system, and all child-serving systems, as we continue to move forward with reforms. We feel that collaboration with Louisiana's other child-serving agencies is vital in reaching our mutual goal of improved outcomes and well-being for Louisiana's children.

Health Services

The Office of Juvenile Justice has contracted with an outstanding provider for comprehensive medical, mental health and dental care for youth housed in all three of our secure care facilities. Correct Care Solutions (CCS) is a national leader in the provision of day-to-day health care programs in the correctional healthcare field. Through this partnership, the company provides daily management of medical, dental, and mental health needs for the youth in these facilities. All youth are screened by qualified health care professionals immediately upon arrival at a secure care facility and subsequently have access to health services 7 days a week, around the clock. A registered nurse is on duty during each shift.

In 2011, Correct Care Solutions was awarded the contract to provide health care services at Swanson Center for Youth, the last facility to issue an RFP for state of the art health care services. CCS began providing health services at Bridge City and Jetson Center for Youth in September 2010. This change in the contracted health care provider at Swanson Center for Youth not only ensures delivery of efficient, cost effective, and quality health care service to the youth, but also maintains continuity of care, now that CCS provides services at all three facilities. An auditing tool has been developed to objectively assess whether the contracted healthcare provider achieves its stated performance measures, ensuring the delivery of quality healthcare to OJJ youth.

The medical services standards of care set forth by the American Correctional Association were met or exceeded by the medical staff which contributed to the two OJJ secure care facilities receiving accreditation by ACA.

OJJ has completely transitioned from paper medical records to an electronic health records system, currently in use by CCS at all three facilities. An electronic health record for each youth may be accessed by medical staff at any facility, which enhances efficiency in the event youth transfer between facilities.

OJJ striving for excellence and working toward a model

Regionalization

OJJ identified the need to provide therapeutic services for adjudicated youth in the south and central Louisiana region, to keep youth closer to home, community and family. OJJ seeks to expand the continuum of care in this region, while creating an opportunity for economic growth in the area by



putting local citizens to work. OJJ announced that the state will build a \$20 million state-of-the-art secure-care facility at the southern outskirts Bunkie, Louisiana, in Avoyelles Parish.

Construction is projected to be done within three years. The new facility will implement proven treatment

models that focus on therapeutic services, accountability, and restorative justice. Facility staff will assess youths' needs and risks; provide substance abuse and mental health treatment, education, workforce development and training, and other services. These models have proven to reduce recidivism and turn youth around to a path of productive citizenship.

During 2011, renovations continued on the site of Columbia Center for Youth. The facility is set to open in 2012 when renovations of this 48-bed facility in Caldwell Parish are completed. When Columbia opens its doors, the Swanson census will decrease, aiding further implementation of LAMOD.

PREA Award

OJJ was awarded a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) grant of \$750,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice. Only one third of the grant recipients were juvenile justice agencies. OJJ will use the grant funds to work with consultants to conduct intensive and thorough assessments of our facilities, and to evaluate and improve policies and procedures, and ultimately to improve facility culture regarding PREA.

The use of the evaluative efforts of the LSU School of Social Work will provide qualitative and quantitative readings of our culture, and monitor our progress in implementing corrective action plans offered by consultants.

OJJ Chief of Operations Ellyn Toney authored an article published in the June/July issue of *Corrections Today*, the official publication of ACA. Headlined "PREA Raises the Bar in Juvenile Corrections," the article discusses the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and outlines strategies that OJJ has put into practice to comply with the act's requirements. Recognizing that juvenile corrections presents a unique set of challenges, Ellyn stressed that "PREA has been the catalyst for juvenile caregivers to increase their knowledge of adolescent sexual development, to put mechanisms into place to identify and treat sexual trauma, and to educate youth in healthy sexuality, including their right to live free of victimization."

We will work with data consultants to develop an automated incident reporting process to allow us to obtain information on incidents as they occur in our facilities. By automating our incident reporting system and providing a repository of data, OJJ will eliminate reliance on paper records to count incidents, will be equipped to monitor PREA-related incidents as they occur, and will be able to produce trend reports to identify and compare patterns, locations, etc., of incidents.

The goal of the grant award is an improved culture and enhanced accountability of the OJJ system as it relates to PREA, and to influence other southern states to do the same by learning from our improvements.

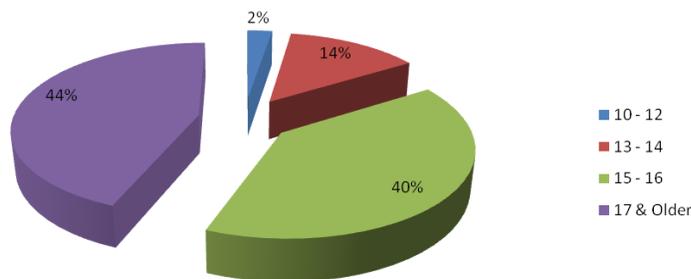
Education

OJJ's secure facility schools were re-approved as Alternative Schools under the new guidelines established by the Louisiana Department of Education and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), Title 28, Bulletin 131—Alternative Education Schools/Programs Standards. OJJ principals and teachers completed training to implement the new Core Standards Curriculum adopted by the Louisiana State Department of Education in 2011, and were trained by educational consultants on Robert Marzano's research-based strategies, "The Highly Engaged Classroom".

OJJ facility schools experienced a 19% increase in the GED passing rate in 2011, now at 53%.

The agency implemented several new initiatives for our students. We established and awarded the first annual Ernest Gaines Reading Award to a student at each OJJ school who was an improved reader and showed a distinct gain in reading achievement. The first awards were presented in June 2011 at each graduation ceremony. Internationally acclaimed author Ernest Gaines, a native and resident of New Roads, visited with youth at Jetson. OJJ also developed and implemented the "Get Caught Reading Program". All sites read the same three books, written by Louisiana authors, who later visited the campuses and spoke with the youth. OJJ established partnerships with local school districts to provide ACT testing for youth who qualify.

**Youth Served in 2011
by Age**



Collaboration with Higher Education

OJJ began a collaborative program with North Shore Technical College, under a grant from the MacArthur Foundation, to establish a model whereby community and technical colleges work to create an individual career pathway for juvenile justice-involved youth. Participants receive career guidance, intensive case management and follow-up, education, job skills training, pre-employment services, as

well as job placement services upon completion of their chosen academic program. Youth may also receive specialized services, if a need is identified by the program coordinator, including basic skills enhancement (reading, writing and math instruction), mentoring (career pathway development), counseling, and referrals to various community organizations (homeless shelters, counseling and substance/alcohol abuse programs).

OJJ executed a memorandum of understanding with Southern University, Baton Rouge, Agriculture Research and Extension Center (SU Ag Center) to enhance and improve our secure care youths' skills and aid them in obtaining gainful employment in the fields of agribusiness and sciences. Under the agreement, SU will provide technical assistance, training, and quality outreach education in the fields of agriculture, family and consumer sciences, urban forestry, horticulture, and other experiential learning opportunities to OJJ youth and staff at JCY. OJJ will work with the SU staff to utilize research labs, outdoor research areas, classrooms and other resources.

Staff Development

OJJ created a set of guidelines contained in a leadership manual to assist newly promoted leaders, or those striving to attain a leadership position, in becoming good, or better, leaders. All supervisory staff received training on the "Leadership Manual: Thoughts and Suggestions for New and Emerging OJJ Leaders." The booklet is available for all agency employees. The contents of the handbook are centered on the five leadership principles discussed in the book, ***The Leadership Challenge***, by Kouzes and Posner.

Family Engagement

The Parent Empowerment Network (P.E.N.), regional parent support groups in communities, was developed to focus on family engagement and navigation through the juvenile justice system. P.E.N. is a framework to help parents understand the daily experiences of children involved in the juvenile justice system, and serves as the catalyst for OJJ to engage parents to function as members of the treatment team by working with OJJ staff in the best interest of the youth, as well as the public. This program was initiated in two regions and will be expanded to other regions in 2012. Each secure care facility continued to host quarterly listening group meetings for parents, allowing them to meet with facility directors, treatment and education staff, to discuss concerns about their children's progress. In addition, the secure care facilities expanded family visitation schedules to include both Saturdays and Sundays.

Courtroom Training

In 2011, OJJ's Legal Section began quarterly training for OJJ staff who must appear in court, in proper courtroom demeanor and how to provide the best service to the courts. Probation and Parole personnel, social workers, and occasionally security staff testify in court on behalf of OJJ. Often this testimony is needed to educate the court in furtherance of a motion to modify a youth's disposition; at other times it is to explain to the court and/or the District Attorney treatment being offered to a youth and how he or she is progressing in their program.

Training by seasoned OJJ courtroom lawyers helps these witnesses understand the culture of courtroom procedure and how to be a valuable witness who is forthcoming to the court regarding the programs and progress of our youth. Regular training will help staff remain focused in the courtroom and will provide an opportunity for staff to have a forum with the agency's attorneys to discuss particular situations and ask questions.

Specialized Training in 2011

Moving the Margins (LGBTQ) Training

The National Association of Social Workers and Lambda Legal partnered to develop *Moving the Margins: Training Curriculum for Child Welfare Services with LGBTQ Youth in Out-of-Home Care*, to build capacity, awareness and skills for social workers and other child welfare practitioners, so they may better serve and respond to the needs of *Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Questioning* (LGBTQ) youth in out-of-home care. OJJ staff participated in the *Moving the Margins: Train the Trainer Southern Regional Session* in May, 2011.

The curriculum is divided into modules, allowing trainers to present different aspects of the material to a range of audiences with differing levels of understanding, prior knowledge and job responsibilities. The first half of the curriculum (LGBTQ 101) is an introduction for trainees who are developing cultural competency with LGBTQ clients, staff and peers.

LGBTQ 101 training was scheduled for all staff in the three secure care facilities and some regional offices during the fall of 2011. The remainder of the regional offices will schedule the LGBTQ 101 session in 2012.

The second half of the curriculum (LGBTQ 201) is designed in skill-building modules. Each module explores in greater depth many of the issues faced by LGBTQ clients in out-of-home care systems. These modules include scenarios that can be explored in small group discussions, through role-play and in learning labs. LGBTQ 201 will be scheduled for new and experienced staff in facilities during 2012.

Mental Health Training

National experts say OJJ is breaking ground in providing mental health training from *the Mental Health Training Curriculum for Juvenile Justice* (MHTC-JJ) to all staff who provide day-to-day care and supervision of youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

Dr. Stephen Phillippi, Assistant Professor of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences at the LSU Health Sciences Center- Institute for Public Health and Justice stated, "**OJJ is certainly the first statewide juvenile justice agency in the nation to apply the mental health training developed by experts** working with the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change initiative and the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice."

In fact, this training was recently adopted by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and is being promoted for wider dissemination as part of their national strategy.

The training was developed by the McArthur Foundation and was conducted by Dr. Phillippi and Dr. Gene Griffin, assistant professor of psychiatry at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago.

Training on all seven modules of the MHTC-JJ was conducted for all staff in the three secure care facilities as well as all OJJ regional Probation and Parole Offices.

The curriculum, which has been incorporated into OJJ staff training, provides current information and practical strategies for working with youth with mental health issues in community-based and secure care settings. The training includes interactive discussions and videos of youth, family members and activities.

OJJ Engaging the Community



Second Annual Champion of Louisiana Juvenile Justice Award

Beauregard Parish District Attorney David W. Burton accepted the second annual Champion of Louisiana Juvenile Justice Award from OJJ Deputy Secretary Dr. Mary L. Livers. The two are pictured at Jetson Center for Youth in Baker, where a Celebration of Change was held in December 2011. Mr. Burton said the biggest change he has seen in the reform of the juvenile justice system was in the “mind-set, the change in philosophy,” the realization that in dealing with children, Louisiana could continue to warehouse them or try to transform the system to better prepare juvenile offenders to

become productive members of society.

The Champion of Louisiana Juvenile Justice Award was created in 2010 to recognize those who have championed the cause of juvenile justice reform, and whose dedication and hard work have resulted in the overhaul of Louisiana’s juvenile justice system, which today provides better conditions and services for Louisiana’s at-risk youth. The first annual Champion of Louisiana Juvenile Justice Award was presented to Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Catherine “Kitty” Kimball.

Community involvement

OJJ staff across the state participated in speaking engagements and presentations at community events, including:

- MADD Power of Parents on Underage Drinking seminar hosted by OJJ held at ULM
- Sexual offender presentations to school personnel
- OJJ informational presentations to local civic organizations such as Lion’s Clubs and Rotary Clubs
- LDAA juvenile prosecutor training
- First Juvenile Defender Vision Meeting
- Presentations to area high school classes and university classes
- Lions Clubs and Rotary Clubs
- Career fairs
- Community resource fairs
- Back to school fairs
- Sex offender trainings
- Children and Youth Planning Boards

OJJ staff attend conferences throughout the year including the annual Louisiana Governor’s Conference on Juvenile Justice, Crimestopper Teen Peace Summit, Louisiana Drug Court Conference, North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents’ annual national conference held this year in Baton Rouge, Department of Education’s Connections Workshop, and ACA annual conferences.

Restorative Justice

During 2011 students from Swanson's carpentry vocational education classes worked with Habitat for Humanity on the construction of approximately 12 homes. The carpentry instructor does initial planning on campus to prepare students for work off campus. At the off campus construction site, the instructor, a paraeducator, and facility staff supervise the students while they work. To date, Habitat for Humanity has hired one of our students fulltime upon his release, and has offered fulltime employment to two others.



OJJ youth stole the show at the annual Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice held in New Orleans. For the past several years,

artwork by youth in all three facilities has been featured in a silent auction, and every piece is sold, every year. Culinary Arts students were invited to show off their skills by bringing dessert for 500 to the conference. The youth did a great job in creating an attractive display and the goodies were a hit as was the Bridge City Culinary Arts students' cookbook, which was distributed to conference participants. Another feature at the conference was a performance by an OJJ choir at the keynote luncheon. In 2011 we saw a first – a single choir consisting of youth and staff from both Bridge City and Jetson Centers for Youth.

As part of a Restorative Justice Program, during the summer, Swanson students adopted Clark Cemetery, a historic Monroe cemetery. The youth help by cutting grass, cleaning up, righting fallen headstones, and they assisted in finding gravesites of World War II veterans. These young men were officially recognized by the Ouachita Parish Police Jury for their outstanding contribution to the community.



OJJ staff acknowledged

OJJ Leader Receives National Award

Deputy Secretary Dr. Mary L. Livers received a national award from the Association of Women Executives in Corrections (AWEC) at its annual training conference in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dr. Livers was the recipient of AWEC's 2011 Legacy Award, presented annually to an outstanding professional who has encouraged diversity in the development and contributions of senior and executive staff in corrections.

"Dr. Livers has been a leader and she has supported and mentored many people," said AWEC President Annie Harvey, of the North Carolina Department of Correction. "She has always supported diversity in leadership development and career advancement in the field of corrections and she promotes informed discussion of correctional issues in an atmosphere of mutual respect. AWEC's motto is 'each one teach one.' In Dr. Livers' case, she has modeled 'each one, teach MANY.' She is truly a living legacy."

Dr. Livers is a charter member of AWEC and has been involved in leadership development for a number of years, supporting this effort in every state she has worked in, as well as nationally through numerous governmental agencies and professional organizations, according to AWEC's executive committee. Dr. Livers was in the first class of the Executive Women's Leadership at the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in 1994. Dr. Livers currently serves as treasurer of the American Correctional Association (ACA), has served a term on its Board of Governors, a member of numerous committees, past president of AWEC, and currently is chair of the organization's National Voice Committee.

OJJ HR Director Receives Career Service Award

Human Resources Director Gwendolyn Jones was chosen as one of 12 civil servants statewide to receive the Charles Dunbar Career Service Award for 2011. The Dunbar Award is the highest honor that classified public employees can receive for their service to the citizens of Louisiana. The Louisiana Civil Service League bestows the award on local, state and municipal civil service employees who distinguish themselves through unselfish service to the citizens of Louisiana. Nominees are judged on commitment to the classified service, contributions toward workplace improvement, personal initiative, and volunteer community service.

The award is named after the founder of the League, Charles E. Dunbar, Jr., who was responsible for spearheading the effort to establish a classified workforce governed through merit system principles.

Gwen Jones brought her deep faith, steadfast personal values and concern for people to her work as Director of Human Resources for the Office of Juvenile Justice. Gwen impressed upon job applicants the need for good role models for our youth and showed them how they can impact the lives of our youth.

Gwen has long been an active member of several professional organizations that provide professional development for members and services to agencies. These include the Society for Human Resources Management, the LA State Personnel Council, the HR Managers' Association and NASPE, the National Association of Personnel Executives. At the time of this award, Gwen had 34 years of state service.

Track Stars

The South Side Alternative High School Panthers Track Team, at Swanson Center for Youth, competed at the Wossman High School track meet March 18 against 12 other local high schools. Twenty-four South Side youth were chosen to participate in the meet. The youth were trained by Swanson employees, who volunteered the train the youth on their own time.

Our Panthers all placed and some brought back 1st through 4th place trophies! They showed true talent and skill to compete and win against teams who trained much longer. We congratulate our youth on their athletic prowess and their “Panther” skills! Go Southside High! Later the team competed in events at Ouachita Christian and Delhi High schools.

Field Trips

OJJ youth in secure care facilities attend field trips throughout the year, as part of their Life Skills curriculum. Sites for field trips include:

- USS Kidd
- Louisiana State capitol
- Kite Fest
- Grambling State University Campus
- Audubon Institute of New Orleans
- Basketball and track tournaments
- American Culinary Federation Central Regional Conference

TV Show Scenes Filmed at Jetson

Jetson Center for Youth was chosen as a site for an episode of the hit TV series “Breakout Kings.”



The shoot day began early - at 6 a.m. There were dozens of trucks, tents, production staff, extras, equipment and lots of good food prepared by a production caterer. The shoot went well and the staff assigned to work

with the crew had the privilege of watching everything on the set. It was truly a unique experience for Jetson staff. Everything went well and Jetson welcomed the **Breakout Kings** crew with open arms as they shot a scene at the facility. Ten episodes of **Breakout Kings** were shot in Baton Rouge and the Felicianas (at Dixon Correctional Center in Jackson and Angola) for the second season of the hit series.

Other States Look to Louisiana OJJ for guidance

Through a special request from the Director of the Mississippi Division of Youth Services, OJJ’s Investigative Services Division (IS) provided training to Mississippi investigators in April 2011. Central Office and facility investigators facilitated a four-day training session including case management, report writing and formatting, PREA, audio/video recording and review, and the use of polygraph in investigations. The Mississippi investigators visited BCCY, where they toured the campus and viewed firsthand the operations of the IS office there. In November, IS staff conducted additional training for newly hired Mississippi investigators.

In January, 18 students and a professor from Ole Miss, University of Mississippi, Department of Legal Studies, visited with staff and youth to learn about juvenile justice reform in Louisiana.

In June, the director and several representatives from the Arkansas Division of Youth Services spent time in New Orleans, visiting the regional office and several programs and providers. Arkansas representatives said they wanted to visit Louisiana because they heard about the innovations we have implemented and the progress we are making.

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Facilities

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Columbia Center for Youth

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