Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association

2012 Annual Conference
May 2 - 4, 2012
Kearney Holiday Inn
NJJA.org

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Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association

2012 Annual Conference
May 2 - 4, 2012
Kearney Holiday Inn

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

12:00 – 1:00

REGISTRATION

1:00 – 5:00

Pre-Conference Session
Measuring Relevant Processes, Practices, and Outcomes

*This session is limited to the first 50 registrants. Participants in the Juvenile Diversion Training Series will receive first preference.

Speaker: Anne Hobbs, Ph.D., Director, Juvenile Justice Institute-UNO

Evaluation of programs is often the last thing that agencies implement, yet it is one of the most critical elements to a successful program. This session will explain different types of evaluation strategies, outline essential evaluation components, and identify what types of data are necessary to collect.
THURSDAY, MAY 3

8:00-9:00  REGISTRATION

9:00-9:30  WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Starcia Ague, Research Coordinator for the University of Washington, Division of Public Behavioral Health and Justice Policy

Starcia’s personal experience with the juvenile justice system began in early childhood being raised in the presence of child abuse, poverty, and adults engaged in unlawful activities. These early childhood experiences provide the backdrop to her informal education in the system as a whole – experience that exposed her first-hand to the injustices our youth deal with on a day-to-day basis and the systems that can fail them. By age 16, Starcia found herself incarcerated, “for juvenile life”, not released until her 21st birthday. During her six years of incarceration, Starcia found the strength and wherewithal to “be the change that you want to see” – not only questioning the choices that led her to incarceration, but questioning the systems that were designed and put in place to protect our youth. Her story is a testament to the strength and resolve of one person who, through her actions, has positively affected many.

10:30-10:45  BREAK

10:45-12:00  BREAKOUT SESSIONS

System Experience from a Youth’s Perspective: Starcia Ague and Project Everlast Members
Utilizing voices and first-hand experience, members of Project Everlast and Starcia Ague will provide insight on the collateral consequences of being involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice system and what others can do to assist youth in navigating through the systems. This session will involve significant interaction with audience members. The panel will also share what helped them to stay focused and motivated to succeed. Project Everlast consists of current and former state wards ages 14 to 24.

Tour Guide of Change: Motivational Interviewing Becomes More Directive: Brenda Jennings, Sr. Probation Officer, District 6 CBI Unit, Nebraska State Probation
Become a tour guide for change. Explore the techniques of motivational interviewing of eliciting and recognizing change talk. Obtain helpful tools in guiding juveniles to discover reasoning behind their ambivalence toward change. Discuss skills to support development through respective stages of change while adhering to the spirit of Motivational Interviewing.

Trendy Designer Drugs: The World of Synthetics: Chuck Matson, RID Training
This dynamic presentation covers the latest information on how drugs affect the brain and brain development, and trends in synthetic and designer drugs. Learn where these drugs come from, symptoms to look for, and future trends in designer drugs.

Collective Impact: Can Your Community Achieve It?: Julie Rogers, Juvenile Justice Institute; Kim Holmes, Saunders County Community Planning Coordinator; Wilma Arp, Platte County Diversion Director
Communities continually come together to meet, plan, and organize around issues facing youth and families. Yet, efforts often fall short or move at a snail’s pace. Why? This session will discuss the cutting edge concept of Collective Impact and how communities can break out of the rut and achieve results. Hear from two Nebraska communities that have achieved amazing results!

12:00-1:15  AWARDS LUNCHEON

1:30-2:45  KEYNOTE: Engaging the Disengaged Youth
Suzi Yokley-Busby, Positive Youth Engagement Program Coordinator, University of Nebraska Omaha & Omaha Public Schools in Partnership with Building Bright Futures
Through the embracing of evidence-based approaches and research, “the importance of focusing on youths’ strengths instead of their risk factors” becomes a common goal for the school and the community. Our pursuit to embed positive youth engagement with the five Areas of Focus, supports young people and their need to be successful. The 5 Areas of Focus of Positive Youth Engagement include: Commitment to Learning, Service to Others, Constructive & Creative Use of Time, Hopeful View of a Purposeful Future, and Healthy Lifestyle & Relationships. Walk away from this dynamic session with tangible strategies to engage the youth and families you serve.

2:45-3:00  BREAK
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

3:00-4:30

**System Experience from a Youth’s Perspective: Stacieg Ague and Project Everlast Members (REPEAT)**
Utilizing voices and first-hand experience, members of Project Everlast and Stacieg Ague will provide insight on the collateral consequences of being involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice system and what others can do to assist youth in navigating through the systems. This session will involve significant interaction with audience members. The panel will also share what helped them to stay focused and motivated to succeed. Project Everlast consists of current and former state wards ages 14 to 24.

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**Considerations of the School Refusal Assessment: Suzi Yokley-Busby, UNO/OPS/BBF & Steve Snodgrass, LCSW, Ralston Public Schools**
This presentation will summarize the development of the School Refusal Assessment Scale (SRAS), a psychological model for differentiating four types of school refusal developed by Dr. Christopher Kearney, PhD. Participants will be provided a methodology for understanding the complexity of excessive school absenteeism, how it can be addressed by schools, public/private agencies, communication approaches that can be used with children and families, and effective strategies for intervening in specific types of attendance problems.

**Youth-Driven Leadership...At Its Best!: Region V Youth Action Board**
Region V Youth Action Board will present on youth leaders invested in regional prevention efforts. The Board members will provide an overview and insight into youth leadership development with a youth-driven focus. Participants will gain a better understanding of what youth driven really means and suggestions as to how to get youth involved in youth-serving organizations and entities.

4:30-6:00

**NJJA Networking Reception: Hors d’oeuvres and networking with a chance to win great prizes!**

FRIDAY, MAY 4

8:00-9:00

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00-10:15

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**Exit Upon Entry - Understanding Students’ Educational and Transitional Needs: Jim Bennett, Lancaster County Youth Services Center; Lori Griggs, Nebraska State Probation District 3; David Baisinger, Nebraska Youth Academy/Hastings Regional Center; Mark Mason, Nebraska Dept. of Education/Department of Health and Human Services**
This panel presentation will discuss the various stages in a student’s education progression while in out-of-home placements. Panelists will describe what happens from initial contact through successful re-entry into education settings within their community.

**Adult Leaders Learning from Youth in the System: Aaron Davis, President, Aaron Davis Presentations**
Aaron will assist participants from all levels of youth oriented systems in providing strong leadership skills to help rebuild and provide hope to youth that have faced great adversity. This session will equip participants with tools for dealing with youth regarding issues of: mutual respect, authority vs. control, utilizing community partners, and building strong relationships. These tools will help enhance and establish necessary resources for the youth and families you serve.

**JDAI in Nebraska- Expanding on Success: Corey Steel, Nebraska Office of Probation Administration, Kim Thomas, Douglas County JDAI Coordinator**
In the past year, Nebraska has started implementation of the Annie E. Casey Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) in Douglas County. This session will provide an overview of JDAI and highlight progress made in Douglas County as well as plans for statewide expansion.

**CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? An Introduction to Juvenile Justice Policy and Advocacy: Sarah Forrest, Policy Coordinator - Voices For Children**
Have you ever wondered why things work the way they do in the juvenile justice system? Have you ever wanted to change that? This session will provide you with a basic understanding of juvenile justice policy-making in Nebraska as well as an overview of recent changes. It will also give you the basic tools that can make you an effective advocate and let your voice be heard.

10:15-10:30

BREAK

10:30-12:00

**Closing KEYNOTE: Empowering Community Partnerships to Better Empower Our Youth**
**Aaron Davis, President, Aaron Davis Presentations**
Aaron will close the conference with participants having a renewed sense of community investment and appreciation for other professionals. Participants will learn how to communicate and collaborate effectively to assist in improving outcomes for the youth they serve, achieving the ultimate goal of building strong sustainable systems that will provide care and support for youth in need. Leave this session with tools to be creative with youth, empowering them to be part of their own healing process.
May 2 - 4, 2012

- For hotel reservations, call Kearney Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE • (308) 237-5971
- $76.55 plus tax for single or double room per night

One registrant per registration form, please. (Please print)

REGISTRANT INFORMATION:

Name______________________________
Agency____________________________
Address____________________________
City_________________ State_________ Zip__________
Phone____________________________
Email____________________________

☐ Pre-Conference Session Information: This session is available to the first 50 interested participants at no additional cost. Participants in the Juvenile Diversion Training Series will have first priority. Please check here to register for this Pre-Conference Session.
☐ Undergraduate Conference Fee @ $75
☐ Regular Conference Fee @ $100

Registration is confirmed upon receipt of payment. Walk-ins are welcome but space is not guaranteed. Check or cash will be required for walk-ins.

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

To register and pay online go to www.njja.org

☐ Enclosed is Check #________________. Make checks payable to NJJA.

Submit registration form and check to:

Glenda Hinz / HINZtime Virtual Assistance
P.O. Box 84944, Lincoln, NE 68501-4944
402.438.2253 phone • 866.365.4851 fax

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