

## Kansas News

### Juvenile Services Deputy Secretary Terri Williams to Take New Position Outside KDOC

Terri Williams, Deputy Secretary of the Division of Juvenile Services, will leave the KDOC on April 28 to take a position with the non-profit Community Solutions, Incorporated (CSI). Williams has headed the Juvenile Services division of KDOC for five years. She led the successful merger of the Juvenile Justice Authority and KDOC in the summer of [Read more . . .](#)



**KDOC-JS staff gather to wish Terri Williams best of luck  
“Thank You”**

By Terri Williams

The older I get the less attention I pay to celebrating birthdays. However, one opportunity that birthdays and anniversaries present is to take inventory of accomplishments. This has been an incredibly busy year in juvenile justice for those of us fortunate enough to work in this field. While at times it seems like we are building the airplane as we are flying it, there has been an unprecedented investment in training, resources, policy development, evidence-based community programs, and other system improvements all with the end goal of elevating the work that we do and the impact we have on those we serve. While the accomplishments and progress on a state and local level are too numerous to list, we all know that our staff, stakeholders, and partners have all contributed in some way towards the outcomes and results listed below.

On a more personal note, as I move on to other opportunities I wanted to thank each of you for the challenging work that you do every day. The kids and families in this state depend on your expertise and dedication and I am excited to see what the next year brings in terms of improved services for Kansas youth. It has been an honor and a privilege to get to know and work with you these last five years.

### Reduced Population Milestones Achieved for Youth in Court Ordered Custody Placements

Just one year after the signing of SB 367 the number of youth in out-of-home court-ordered placements reached significant milestones.

- As of April 16, 2017, the number of youth in Juvenile Correctional Facility (JCF) court-ordered placements had dropped to 197. One year ago, there were 223 in JCF's; while five years ago, there were 350 youth in JCF's.
- As of April 16, 2017, the number of youth in Youth Residential Center's (YRC-II's) court-ordered placements had dropped to 95. One year ago, there were 211 in YRC-II's; while five years ago, there were 418 youth in YRC-II's.

Randy Bowman, KDOC-JS Director of Juvenile Community Corrections stated "I think this reflects positively on the education, training, and changes in philosophical approaches that we have seen on the part of staff across the state over the last year or so, as the changes in the law related to sentencing do not take effect until later on this summer."

## Human Trafficking in Kansas

### Local Shelter Says Dozens of Youths Falling Victim to Human Trafficking

In the span of a year, dozens of human-trafficking victims are expected to seek shelter at The Willow Domestic Violence Center. And soon, the link to help could be a city employee. A new initiative will train city employees to [Read more . . .](#)

### Kansas House Pursues Tougher Penalties Related to Human Trafficking

The Kansas House advanced a bill strengthening penalties for human trafficking and related activities. [Read more . . .](#)

### Topeka Man Sentenced to 35 Years for Sex-Trafficking

A Shawnee County District Court judge sentenced a 28 year-old to 35 years in prison for attempting to lure a 14 year-old girl into sex-trafficking. The Shawnee County District Attorney says the accused had [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

## The Juvenile Justice Corner

By Randy Bowman, Director  
DOC – Juvenile Community-Based Services

Every year the month of April is a time of transition, saying goodbye to winter while spring takes hold with the promise of another summer soon to come. This April, that transition will challenge us in a unique way. As we continue our work with the juvenile justice system in Kansas, we now know that we will not have the benefit of the guidance and leadership of Deputy Secretary Terri Williams. Earlier this month, Secretary Norwood announced that Terri has accepted the Chief Development Officer position with the non-profit Community Solutions, Incorporated (CSI), which provides community-based services for child welfare, juvenile justice and criminal populations on a national scale. As Terri has devoted the last five years of her professional life to improving the quality of life for kids and families while enhancing public safety in Kansas, with CSI she will now have an opportunity to positively impact lives on a much broader scale.

Kansas has a long history of great leaders in our communities, public and private sectors, and in our families. Our field of juvenile justice has its own examples of great leaders, among whom Terri clearly established herself as the Commissioner of the former Juvenile Justice Authority and as Deputy Secretary of KDOC-JS. Terri's commitment to helping create systemic changes that are anchored with best practices and evidenced based programs was an essential component of the changes realized in SB 367. She leaves to us all a legacy that includes a safer correctional facility for youth and staff, renewed collaboration among the three branches of government, increased opportunities for youth to improve their ability to live productively and responsibly, and ultimately a safer Kansas.

I hope you will join us in wishing Terri and her family the best in this next chapter of her career, and in continuing the work to realize the full potential for future generations of youth and their families in our communities across Kansas and beyond.

## Kansas News – SB 367 Updates

By Randy Bowman

April 11 marked the first anniversary of Governor Brownback signing into law SB 367. This law provided the revised policies and for the reinvestment of resources to improve results for youth and the public served by our juvenile justice system. A year into this multi-year implementation, Kansas has seen significant progress in many key areas, and has laid a foundation for the future. Some of the successes this year include:

- Establishment of the Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee to guide implementation
- KDOC-JS funded Sex Offender-specific post-adjudication assessments and community-based treatment on a statewide basis
- KDOC-JS funded Functional Family Therapy (FFT®) across Kansas for moderate and high risk juvenile offenders at risk for out-of-home placement
- Juvenile Community Corrections agencies statewide now have staff who are qualified to provide Cognitive Behavior Treatment (CBT) programs using Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT®) funded by KDOC-JS or another locally implemented CBT model *Continued next page . . .*

## 2017 DOC-Juvenile Services Training

### Moral Reconciliation Therapy Trainings Held

Two sessions of Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) training, facilitated by the Correctional Counseling, Inc. were provided for 64 Kansas practitioners during April 2017. The first session was held at Topeka Correctional Facility (36 participants) on April 11 – 14 and the second session was held at Ellsworth Correctional Facility (28 participants) on April 25 – 28. As staff become trained in MRT, they can begin to provide the program to juveniles. The plan will be to provide a Train-the-Trainer session for MRT later in 2018.

MRT is a systematic treatment strategy that seeks to decrease recidivism among juvenile and adult offenders by increasing moral reasoning. MRT takes the form of group and individual counseling using structured group exercises and prescribed homework assignments. The MRT workbook is structured around 16 units focusing on seven basic treatment issues: confrontation of beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors; assessment of current relationships; reinforcement of positive behavior and habits; positive identity formation; enhancement of self-concept; decrease in hedonism and development of frustration tolerance; and development of higher stages of moral reasoning. MRT participants meet weekly for group for a minimum for 3-6 months.

For more information about MRT, contact Megan Bradshaw by email at [Megan.Bradshaw@ks.gov](mailto:Megan.Bradshaw@ks.gov) or by phone at 785-296-0897.

### Graduated Responses Training

The four Regional Trainers are in process of setting up classes for Graduated Responses Training to be held in May and June. One of the trainers will be in contact with community corrections staff to schedule your training.

## Kansas News

### KDOC- JS 2016 Employee of the Year Juvenile Community Corrections

Jodi Tronsgard, Director of the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center and Detention Alternatives Manager for the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District has been named the 2016 Employee of the Year for Juvenile Community Corrections. Jodi also oversees a 24-bed Juvenile Residential Facility, Home Based Supervision program which offers electronic monitoring and staff monitoring of youth released from detention pending court appearances and the Weekend Alternative Program. Jodi serves on the KDOC-JS JIAS Standards and Detention Risk Assessment Instrument Committees. Jodi works as an adjunct professor at Wichita State University in the criminal justice field.

### 2017 JDAI Inter-Site Conference

The Annie E. Casey Foundation held its largest juvenile justice conference to date on April 17 – 19, 2017. A delegation of 16 from Kansas joined more than 900 policymakers and practitioners in Orlando, Florida, for the 23rd Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Inter-Site Conference. All expenses of the Kansas delegates were fully covered by the Casey Foundation. More than 40 workshops highlighting juvenile justice reforms in action, new innovations in policy and models for state-of-the-art practices were featured in the event.

The conference is meant to inspire attendees to more fully and faithfully implement juvenile justice reform strategies, expand the reform toolbox, and be intentional about sustaining the reforms and the collaborative, data-driven approach that has been at the heart of JDAI's success.

Casey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative has become the standard of practice for how local justice systems nationwide handle the critical front end of the juvenile court process. Participating sites continue to report **impressive results** in reducing reliance on detention of court-involved youth awaiting court hearings or pending placement to correctional programs, and they have done so while protecting public safety and safeguarding taxpayer dollars.

Although most reading this article were not able to attend the conference, the material from the conference will soon be available to everyone online. Follow [this link](#) to register and set up an account and access conference materials online.

## Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

### A More Perfect Justice System for Our Youth is Coming - But Slowly *By Judge Steven Teske (Part 5 of 7)*

What is right will always overcome wrong, even when what is wrong is believed to be right. It may take years or even centuries, but in time we eventually get it right. And that has been our journey in juvenile justice, on a road still under construction, trying to get it right. [Read more . . . .](#)

### Head of Casey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Sounds Alarm for Reformers

The director of the [Annie E. Casey Foundation](#)'s\* Juvenile Justice Strategy Group sounded an alarm Monday about a slowing of progress and an increase in the length of time youth are being incarcerated in some of the 300 sites of the [Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative](#). Nate Balis [spoke](#) at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Foundation-sponsored Initiative (JDAI), with some 900 registrants attending [Read more . . . .](#)

### New Data Powers Progress for Teens, Also Creates Problems, Experts Say at Conference

Data from growing research have stormed into the juvenile justice and child welfare fields over the past two decades, providing more raw material to help troubled teens than ever before. But turning that information wave into better outcomes for children — and convincing practitioners within established systems to adopt new approaches — still requires some prodding and commitment to adopting these findings, according to judges, case workers, academics [Read more . . . .](#)

### Start Small: The Key to a More Gender-Responsive Juvenile Justice System

The call for gender equality we heard on Jan. 21 is as relevant in juvenile justice as in any other sphere of American life. In fact, the unequal justice that girls receive began at the earliest stages of the system. The first juvenile court founded in 1899 defined "delinquent" as anyone under 16 who had violated a city ordinance or law. As applied to girls, however, the court included "incorrigibility, association with immoral persons, vagrancy, and frequent attendance at pool halls or saloons, other debauched conduct or use of profane language" in its definition of delinquency. [Read more . . . .](#)

## Human Trafficking – National

### Missouri Attorney General Acts to Fight Human Trafficking

Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley announced several measures on Monday that he says will help combat human trafficking in the state. Hawley's initiatives include issuing new consumer protection rules, creating a new anti-trafficking unit under the attorney general's office and establishing an anti-trafficking task force to combat commercial sex and forced labor, according to a statement from Hawley's [Read more . . . .](#)

## KS News – SB 367 Updates cont. from page 1

- Increased collaboration between the Office of Judicial Administration and KDOC-JS resulted in the publication of the first in Kansas standards for Immediate Intervention Programs (IIP) which are currently being implemented across the state, the development of Kansas Administrative Regulations for a system of Graduated Responses to probation violations, and determined cutoff scores for risk levels using the Youthful Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) risk assessment instrument
- Increased training, including refresher training for 158 YLS/CMI users, purchase of on-line resources for Juvenile Intake and Assessment Services employees to receive training on the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument- Version 2 (MAYSI-2) used by those programs, 636 additional juvenile justice professionals trained in the Mental Health Training Curriculum for Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ) for a total of 1,469 since 2014, and 578 stakeholders trained on the contents of SB 367
- The Juvenile Intake and Community Supervision Standards committees conducted a full review of existing operational standards, and recommendations were implemented by KDOC-JS
- The Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) committee reviewed results from piloting in Kansas, and made recommendations to OJA and KDOC for full implementation statewide
- Pilots for additional community-based services have been continued (Multi-systemic Therapy MST®) or implemented (Aggression Replacement Training ART® and Youth Advocate Program YAP) which will help inform future services
- Pending final action next month, the Kansas Legislature has thoroughly reviewed and provided via SB 42 an important "trailer bill" to further implementation of SB 367

Much work lies ahead in year two for everyone serving kids and the public in our juvenile justice system. This includes furthering some items above, development of data measures and collection processes to determine success and identify necessary adjustments to policies, and expansion of quality assurance processes that measure effective implementation of services and programs. In addition, more training is planned to increase the skills and knowledge of juvenile justice professionals, work will continue on transitioning those youth who remain in out-of-home placement, and developing new capacity for those who cannot transition under the law.

It is through collaboration and the collective efforts of the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches of our State government along with the stakeholders and staff across our juvenile justice system that we can realize the full potential of SB 367 while achieving the best possible outcomes for youth and public safety across the State of Kansas.

## National News

### New House Legislation Would Reauthorize JJDP

Rep. Jason Lewis, R-Minnesota, and Rep. Bobby Scott, D-Virginia, introduced [HR 1809](#) on March 31, 2017. The bill would reauthorize the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act. The Act expired in 2007 after last being reauthorized in 2002. The House approved its reauthorization last year, but one senator [blocked it](#) in the Senate in November. The JJDP provides federal funding to states that follow the [four core requirements](#) — deinstitutionalization of status offenders, adult jail and lock-up removal, sight and sound separation, and disproportionate minority contact.

### Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: News at a Glance – March/April, 2017

News, features and a video message from OJJDP Acting Administrator Eileen Garry. Topics include:

[Responding to the Needs of Child Sex Trafficking Victims OJJDP Prioritizes Strengthening Agency Relationship with the States](#)

[OJJDP Supports Washington's Smart on Juvenile Justice Launch](#)

[Stakeholder Corner: Community-Based Violence Prevention](#)

[Read more and watch video . . . .](#)