

Kansas News

KDOC Announces Reinvestment Grants

The Kansas Department of Corrections is pleased to announce opportunities for reinvestment through new grant opportunities. This will allow communities to address needs and gaps that exist at the local level. A total of \$5 million dollars will be granted with the purpose of implementing evidence-based practices and programs that will further improve services for juvenile offenders and their families in their home communities. Four million dollars will be invested in the communities through the Boards of County Commissioners (BOCC). The remaining \$1 million dollars will be granted out through a competitive award process aimed at encouraging inter-branch or regional collaboration in planning and developing services for juvenile offenders to further reduce out-of-home placements and the risk to reoffend.

BOCCs will be notified of the availability of the grant application in July 2017, with awards expected in October 2017.

Juvenile Justice Reform Bill to Become Law

On June 2nd, H Sub for SB42, the juvenile justice amendment bill, was enrolled and presented to the Governor after being adopted by the Senate by a vote of 40-0. The Governor signed SB 42 into law on June 9 and it becomes effective July 1, 2017. SB 42 creates and amends laws related to the Kansas juvenile justice system and the changes made to the system by 2016 SB 367.

For SB 42 - As signed by the Governor on 6/9/17 [Click here . . .](#)

For SB42 - Conference Committee Report Brief [Click here . . .](#)

SB 367 Reforms Result in Savings of \$12.3 Million

KDOC announced that reform efforts thus far have generated \$12.3 million in FY17 for reinvestment in evidence-based programs and practices for juvenile offenders. [Read more . . .](#)

Human Trafficking Law Signed by Governor

The Governor held a ceremonial signing Monday morning for [Senate Bill 40](#). The bill will establish new criminal charges aimed at reducing human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children. It also removes the ability for traffickers to say they didn't know the age of the victim as a defense.

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

For a Supplemental note on SB 40 [Click here . . .](#)

New Placement Sentencing Matrix Available

Below is a link to the new placement (sentencing) matrix that is effective July 1, 2017. If you have any questions please contact Jeff Cowger at Jeff.Cowger@ks.gov.

Link to the new sentencing matrix [Click here . . .](#)

KJCC Recognizes Educational Achievements

[Lawrence Gardner High School](#) (LGHS) at the [Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex](#) (KJCC) held its semi-annual graduation ceremony on June 23, 2017 with 26 male juveniles participating in the ceremony (17 received a high school diploma, five received a GED certificate, four received certificates from the [Washburn Institute of Technology](#) and two received both a high school diploma from LGHS and a certificate from Washburn Tech). In the first six months of 2017, LGHS has awarded 19 males and two females high school diploma's while 10 males and two females have earned their GED certificates. Since August, 2016, Washburn Tech has awarded 12 juveniles certificates.

During the graduation, Don Williams, Virtual College Coordinator from Washburn Tech told the gym full of KJCC juveniles, family members of the graduates, and LGHS/KJCC staff that in the past six months, KJCC juveniles earned 275 credentials from Washburn Tech. Due to the partnership between Washburn Tech and KDOC, the Washburn Tech classes are provided at no cost to the KJCC juveniles.

A commencement address was provided by [Rodney Walker](#), Founder of Forever Life Productions who told his inspirational story as a youth growing up in the foster care system in Chicago. Within his message, he talked about how education is just a part of what is needed along the journey, and that to him, college was not about surviving, but was more about thriving. He challenged the KJCC juveniles to create a vision for themselves that is stronger than their circumstances and adversities.

KDOC Announces Annual Staff Awards

Recipients of the 2016 KDOC-JS [annual awards](#) were:

Travis Burger, *Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, LJCF 2016 Non-uniformed Employee of the Year (EOY)*

- Travis has played a vital role in supervising almost every project that the physical plant has accomplished in the past few years. His mentoring of staff has allowed the physical plant to manage many repairs that were previously contracted out. Now as Acting Physical Plant Supervisor still manages to find and accomplish projects that enhance the operation of LJCF.

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The Juvenile Justice Corner

**By Leah Haake, Community Support Manager
DOC – Juvenile Community-Based Services**

The Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) has been finalized and will go into effect on July 1, 2017. Statewide implementation of the KDAI was part of the reforms signed into law with [SB 367](#) from the 2016 legislative session. As per [K.S.A. 75-7023](#), detention risk assessments may only be conducted by a juvenile intake and assessment worker who has completed training. To accomplish this task, all juvenile intake and assessment workers are attending training during the month of June offered by KDOC-JS staff in 10 different locations around the state. A new state JIAS standard has been made available to Administrative Contacts (ACs) and Directors of Juvenile Intakes and will become effective on July 1.

Detention should be used for youth who are public safety risks, have a higher probability of future delinquency or are more likely to recidivate. Lower risk youth are better served with [non-secure alternatives](#) and community-based intervention. The purpose of the KDAI is to evaluate each juvenile from 10 to 17 arrested as a status or juvenile offender to determine the need for secure detention. The KDAI is a written checklist of criteria that are applied to rate each juvenile for specific detention-related risks. The total score indicates the detention risk level which is used to guide the intake staff in making the critical decision as to whether to detain or release a juvenile.

[Continued next page . . .](#)

JIAS Standards – Update

One new **Juvenile Intake and Assessment System** Standard have been finalized and is available on the KDOC-JS web-site.

Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (JIAS-04-114)

[Click here . . .](#)

Alternatives to Detention

Caring Adults Kept Aurelia on Track

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

Program Focuses on Alternatives to Juvenile Detention

[Read more . . .](#)

PEW Charitable Trusts – Report on Kansas

Juvenile Justice Reforms in Kansas Show Early Signs of Success

Last year, Kansas enacted [reforms](#) intended to improve its juvenile justice system by reducing the use of out of home placements and investing in community supervision and rehabilitative services—and they're already showing early signs of success.

The reforms, passed with strong bipartisan support as [Senate Bill 367](#), restrict the placement of certain juveniles in correctional facilities, focus the system's most intensive responses on the highest-risk juveniles, and shift significant resources toward evidence-based alternatives that allow youth to be supervised safely while remaining at home. As a result, Kansas was projected to cut juvenile residential placements approximately 60 percent by 2022 and yield \$72 million for reinvestment in alternatives to incarceration over five years.

Analysis

[Read more . . .](#)

Issue Brief

[Read more . . .](#)

Youth with Complex Trauma

This series of fact sheets describes complex trauma and provides recommendations for a variety of audiences on how to support youth. Developed by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network's Complex Trauma and Developmental Trauma Disorder Work Group, the fact sheets include:

Facts for Directors, Administrators, and Staff in Residential Settings

Gives information for staff in Residential Treatment Centers on how to understand behavior through a trauma lens and provides recommendations on trauma-informed residential policies, staff training and self-care, and the developmental and educational needs of youth. [Read more . . .](#)

In Urban African-American Children, Youth, and Families

Describes the specific barriers that African Americans face in obtaining needed services and offers ideas for providers on building supportive relationships with African-American children and families who have experienced complex trauma. - See more at: [Read more . . .](#)

In Juvenile Justice System-Involved Youth

Describes the path from complex trauma exposure to involvement in the juvenile justice system and presents recommendations for judges and juvenile justice program administrators, parents and family members, and adults who supervise youth. [Read more . . .](#)

National News

CJI Joins Implementation Phase of Utah Juvenile Justice Reforms

The Crime and Justice Institute has joined officials in Utah to begin implementing sweeping juvenile justice reforms signed into law by Gov. Gary Herbert in March. [Read more](#)

Don't Want Youths Joining Gangs? Give Them Hope and Opportunity, Civic Leaders Say

When Beni Santibanez hears about the latest drive-by shooting or clashes between gangs, he shakes his head. That used to be him. "We were the one causing all the wreckage in the '90s," Santibanez said. Gangs arrived in Wichita in force then, sending homicide numbers soaring to unseen heights. Drive-by shootings became a [Read more](#)

Federal Court Finds Conditions of Confinement for Youth Schools Unconstitutional

Western District Judge Peterson found that the use of solitary confinement, pepper spray and restraints at two juvenile facilities in Wisconsin violate youths' constitutional rights under the Fourteenth Amendment. [Read more](#)

Human Trafficking - National

Help Wanted Signs Lead to Trafficking Concerns

Signs have popped up in parts of Michigan with what appears to be a good job offer. The signs claim a person can get more than \$17 an hour. Now, a community in Tuscola County has taken them all down. The Vassar Police Department said there is a city ordinance banning them, and they want to investigate if a legitimate business put [Read more and watch video](#)

Caught in Modern-Day Slavery, She Thought She'd Die - Now She's Trying to Save Others

Joy Anderson was in "the game" for seven years. Known then as "Candy," she was shuttled from city to city and hotel to hotel, tethered by crack and beatings and the constant fear of the men who controlled her. "I was empty, I was lost," she would say. "It was getting so dark so fast and I thought I was going to lose my life. I really thought I was going to die." Anderson, who was rescued from the sex trade nearly four years ago, is one face of a problem that [Read more](#)

How LA County Began to Face Its Big Problem with Youth Being Sex-Trafficked

Michelle Guymon is a hero in the world of child sex trafficking prevention. Seven years ago, she had no idea Los Angeles County had a child sex trafficking problem. Now Guymon is director of the Child Trafficking Unit for the Los Angeles County Probation Department and is part of the group that aims to make LA's efforts to combat child sex [Read more](#)

Kansas News

KDOC Staff Awards *Continued from page 1*

Candice Byrd, Unit Team Manager, KJCC 2016 Non-uniformed EOY

- Until recently, Candice was the sole Unit Team Manager at KJCC. She is humble, trustworthy and tireless. She is willing to take a hands-on approach to assist any staff member and has excellent problem solving skills.

Shawn Couch, Corrections Mgr. LJCF, 2016 Uniformed EOY

- Shawn is a passionate leader who empowers the people around him. He is a big picture thinker who realizes that developing staff members is the key to long-term success.

Laura King, JCO II, KJCC, 2016 Uniformed EOY

- Laura has worked to streamline the RDU intake process and has improved communication among all departments needing access to offender information. She has changed the effectiveness of RDU operations through her drive to be responsive and cooperative.

Katrina Metzger, Behavioral Health Professional - Corizon, KJCC 2016 Contract EOY

- Katie is the first to volunteer to help take on the most challenging tasks and highest acuity cases. She is also a fierce advocate for increasing services to offenders housed in alternative units and programs.

Ann Schreiber, Westside School Secretary, LJCC 2016 Contract EOY

- Staff consider Ann to be the glue that holds everything together. She is the main point of contact for both outside education requests and most internal departments' inquiries. She is always helpful, courteous, and respectful.

Jodi Tronsgard, Sedgwick County Department of Corrections, Kansas Juvenile Community Corrections Staff of the Year

- Jodi is a dedicated, driven, loyal and effective division of corrections employee. She routinely produces the highest quality work product and does so in a pleasant and collaborative manner. Her day to day performance alone warrants this nomination.

Annie E Casey Foundation

A Resource for Strengthening Adoptive Families with Older Kids

Fourteen years ago, Jeanne Miranda brought home her newly adopted 7-year-old daughter and 14-year-old son from Colombia. A psychologist who specializes in cognitive behavioral therapy, Miranda knew her children would need help working through the circumstances of their past and what it now meant for them to be part of her family. [Read more](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

Bottom Line: Treating Kids like Kids in Justice System Works Better

By Judge Steven Teske (Part 8)

What does it mean to be "tough on crime"? As we moved away from the "crimequake" of the '90s and watched the juvenile crime rate fall, the fear that once pushed us off the slippery slope and into a lock 'em up frenzy was replaced by evidence-informed policymaking that emphasizes community-based solutions. The calm after the quake has afforded us the opportunity to rethink what works in crime and punishment while simultaneously exposing hardliners who [Read more](#)

Juvenile Justice Educators Debate New State Requirements under Every Student Succeeds Act

The federal government's attempts to bring consistency and standards to public education across the country have often clashed with the reality facing educators trying to meet those standards. The challenge is even greater for those working with teens locked behind bars or struggling to deal with years of physical and emotional trauma. A conference sponsored by the [Coalition for Juvenile Justice](#) in Washington in mid-June provided a forum for a lively — at times testy [Read more](#)

Personalized Restorative Justice Best Way to Teach Traumatized Students, Conferees Told

WASHINGTON — A white board with a giant illustration of the human brain sat in the middle of the room, a constant reminder, participants said, that any real attempts to treat juvenile offenders begins not with detention or tough love, but with science. Many of the teens who find themselves in the juvenile system or alternative school programs have grown up with trauma that directly impacts their cognitive functions, said Pender Makin, assistant superintendent of schools. [Read more](#)

Untreated Traumatic Brain Injury Keeps Youth in Juvenile Justice System

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) within youth, defined by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) as an injury to the head that causes disruption of the normal function of the brain, is fast becoming an issue of concern for parents across the United States. High-profile incidents of TBI reported in professional athletes have sparked conversations on the safety of youth participation in a variety of sporting activities including hockey, boxing, soccer and full-contact [Read more](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner continued from page 1

Work on the KDAI started in Kansas in 2010. At that time, the Juvenile Intake Standards Committee began working with the Juvenile Justice Authority to research and develop a [detention risk-assessment](#) instrument that could be used statewide. In 2012, a larger detention risk assessment specific statewide workgroup consisting of juvenile intake directors and standard committee members, juvenile detention center administrators, assistant district attorneys, court service officers, probation officers and administrators was assembled and received national training. The first KDAI came out of this group's work and was piloted in seven judicial districts. With revisions based on the data analysis of the pilot, a second iteration of the KDAI was underway and planned for statewide release in January 2017. However, implementation was delayed due to months of ongoing collaboration between the Office of Judicial Administration (OJA) and KDOC. The results of those positive dialogues are the delivery of an instrument that is objective, uniform, and focused on scientific risk-based principals.

Although it has been under development for an extensive period of time, in some ways the work involving the KDAI is just beginning. As the KDAI is used, results will be collected and analyzed to determine if changes need to be made so that the instrument is kept up-to-date and maintains its verifiability. KDAI data will also be used for eventual validation of the instrument. Ongoing evaluation will ensure accuracy, predictability and reliability.

By employing a reliable evidence-based instrument and using the results objectively to make detention decisions and improve practices, we can collectively better meet the public safety needs within our communities while reducing reoffending rates in the future.