

Kansas News

RFP's Available for Reinvestment Grants

The Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) announces the release of two grant opportunities for Boards of County Commissioners (BOCCs): the Reinvestment Grants and the Regional Collaboration Grant.

- The Reinvestment Grants are available to BOCCs in each judicial district to implement evidence-based programs and practices for juvenile offenders and families.
- The Regional Collaboration Grants are competitive grant opportunities to support regional and inter-branch collaboration among BOCCs to deliver services that, absent this approach, may be difficult to deliver efficiently and effectively.

To learn more, please click [here](#) for the application packet which includes the [grant RFP](#) and budget summary and narrative spreadsheets for each grant.

Applications are due: Tuesday, 9/5/2017 by 5:00 p.m.

Questions regarding the grants may be directed to Megan Milner, KDOC Juvenile Services Director of Community Based Services at megan.milner@ks.gov.

KJCC Announces New Deputy Superintendent

Dustin Karr was recently promoted to Deputy Superintendent of the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex. Dustin began his career with the KDOC in 2007 and, since that time, he has held Unit Team positions ranging from Corrections Counselor I to Unit Team Manager, served as Program [Read more](#)

Local Organizations Provide Hope for Juveniles

What can I do when I leave KJCC? How can I find a job and start my career? Who will hire me? [Read more](#)

KJCC Youth "Team Up" with Kansas University

Dr. Mary D. Fry, an Associate Professor in the Sport & Exercise Psychology department at Kansas University focused in Health, Sports, and Exercise Science, and 16 student volunteers traveled from Lawrence to KJCC to put on team-building exercises for the Juvenile Offenders. [Read more](#)

Reducing Number of Juveniles into "School-to-Prison Pipeline" Goal of Local Agreements

Michael Kaye believes the "cruellest and harshest and coldest" way to treat a child is in a juvenile detention facility. "You can't use the adult model of criminal justice," said the retired, long-time Washburn University law professor. "You've got to use a criminal justice system that recognizes kids." Kaye, who traveled across Kansas to study other districts' approach to school-based discipline, played a key role [Read more](#)

Successful Juvenile Justice Reform in Kansas

In 2015, Gov. Sam Brownback, Supreme Court Chief Justice Lawton Nuss and a bipartisan group of legislative leaders established a workgroup to conduct a comprehensive review of the state's juvenile justice system. The group's recommendations led to the passage of Senate Bill 367 — sweeping reform legislation designed to reduce recidivism, keep low-level juvenile offenders out of the justice system for inordinate periods of time, focus on high-risk offenders, [Read more](#)

Advocacy Opportunity

One of the priorities of Kansas Appleseed, while advocating for juvenile justice reform in Kansas, is to incorporate the voice and perspective of those directly impacted by the system. Kansas Appleseed is interested in meeting with family and friends of youth formerly or currently incarcerated to learn their story and empower their voice in reforming the system. As the reinvestment dollars are allocated to local communities, it is important to gain their feedback on what programs they think would be helpful to reducing recidivism, developing pro-social behavior, and ensuring a positive reintegration to society. If you know of anyone directly impact by the juvenile justice system and would be willing to contribute to this effort, please email MFonkert@KansasAppleseed.org.

2017 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Officer YLS/CMI Training:

Location	KJCC, 1430 NW 25th Street, Topeka, KS
Dates	Tuesday September 12 9 am – 5 pm Wednesday September 13 8 am – 5 pm Thursday September 14 8 am – 5 pm
To Enroll	Email michelle.montgomery@ks.gov Participants Name; Judicial District; Phone Number & Email address; and Supervisor's name;
Notes	1. To attend a tour of KJCC prior to the training, arrive by 8:00 am on 9/12/2017 2. Exam will be at approximately 1 pm Thursday, participants may leave once they submit their exam.

The Juvenile Justice Corner

By Jim Johnson, Program Consultant
DOC - Juvenile Community Based Services

In each month's edition of the KS Juvenile Justice Web-Line, we attempt to touch on a variety of topics relevant to current issues with juvenile justice happenings in Kansas. Obviously, there has been plenty to choose from over the past few months with workgroups, senate bills, hearings, statute changes, new administrative regulations, training announcements, state standard changes, new statewide assessment instruments, new statewide therapy programs, and a new statewide sex offender assessment/treatment program etc. This is just a few of a much longer list of some of the major developments within the last 18 months in Kansas. If there is a major theme of the newsletter, it is to try to keep you updated on the significant developments of juvenile justice progress in Kansas.

Looking back through past editions over the last 12 to 18 months, it is clear that a lot of collaboration, strategic planning, dedication and hard went into the development and implementation of such a wide variety of sweeping program changes. And as has been announced, already in just the first year of implementation of juvenile justice reform measures, significant benefits are being realized. One of the very positive ramifications is the announcement in the article within this newsletter "RFP's Available for Reinvestment Grants".

Local Judicial Districts (through their Board of County Commissioners) can identify specific areas of need to be addressed within an evidenced-based program. In addition, regional and inter-branch collaboration grants are also available. This is a great opportunity for community partners to jointly address a shared area of concern when individually your agencies may lack the resources needed to address an issue. By taking advantage of this common-sense approach to target an area of need that may be unique to a district or region, local districts will be providing its citizens with safer communities while enhancing the quality of life for the youth and their families.

Kansas News – SB 367 Updates

FFT® Expands Target Populations across Kansas

KDOC-JS has announced that beginning August 1, 2017 the Functional Family Therapy (FFT®) program in all three regions of the state will accept referrals for moderate and high-risk post-adjudicated 11 – 18 year-old juvenile offender (JO) youth on probation. The FFT® program will no longer be limited to just those youth at immediate risk to be removed from their home, although those youth are still eligible for FFT® services and should continue to be referred to the program. The youth's risk level is based on their most recent YLS-CMI score.

FFT® services are provided in all 105 counties and 31 judicial districts across the state of Kansas by three vendors.

- Eckerd Youth Alternatives provides FFT® services to the southeast region of Kansas (to include the 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 18th, 19th, and 31st judicial districts).
- EmberHope Inc, provides FFT® services in the west-central region of Kansas (to include the 15th/17th/23rd, 16th, 20th, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 30th judicial districts).
- Cornerstones Inc. provides FFT® services in the northeast region of Kansas (to include the 1st, 2nd, 5th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 21st, 22nd, 28th, and 29th judicial districts).

By providing FFT® services within the community, high and moderate risk JO's (and their families) are able to receive treatment in their home where they are provided the skills and support they need to overcome delinquency, substance abuse, and violence. In the past, these same youth would likely have been removed from their home for an out-of-home placement or secure confinement in a juvenile correctional facility.

The goal of the FFT® program remains to keep the family intact while the youth begins a process of making positive behavioral changes and both the family unit and larger community can be strengthened.

Look Back on Year 1: JO Sex Offender Contract

Editor's note – Below is a brief summary provided by Seth Wescott, Director of Sex Offender Treatment, Clinical Associates after their first full year of contracting with KDOC-JS to offer state-wide sex offender assessment and treatment services. As a part of the implementation of SB 367, this contract helps provide necessary services for youth on a statewide level while also keeping youth in their home communities whenever possible.

By Seth Wescott

The contract for juvenile sex offender assessment and treatment is now in year two. The first year has seen some positive steps toward treating youth while they remain in the community. Community-Based Treatment is currently ongoing in: Lenexa, Lawrence, Independence, Newton, Wichita, McPherson, Topeka, Manhattan, and Hutchinson.

Clinical Associates' staff conducted evaluations on 92 youth in FY17. Services have been provided to 23 out of the 31 judicial districts across Kansas. The psychosexual evaluations include

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CJI – The Crime and Justice Institute

Improving Outcomes for Youth: Juvenile Justice Reform Implementation in Six States

Faced with poor outcomes for youth and high costs in their juvenile justice systems, seven states are pursuing bold, comprehensive reforms aimed at better serving young people and their communities. Since 2014, the Crime and Justice Institute, with assistance from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), has provided technical assistance to each of those states – [Georgia](#), [Hawaii](#), [Kentucky](#), [South Dakota](#), [West Virginia](#), [Kansas](#), and Utah -- to "[Getting Smart](#)" on Juvenile Justice by implementing legislative reforms as part of OJJDP's *Smart on Juvenile Justice: A Comprehensive Strategy to Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative*.

Annie E Casey Foundation

Improving Child Welfare Practice with the Power of Adolescent Brain Development

Every year in America, too many young adults leave foster care without a family or the opportunities needed to succeed. Yet, child welfare professionals and caregivers can help these youth better navigate the path toward a healthy adulthood — and a new report from the Casey Foundation's [Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative](#) tells how. [The Road to Adulthood: Aligning Child Welfare Practice with Adolescent Brain Development](#) explores the latest research on adolescent brain development through the lens of racial and ethnic equity and inclusion and then relates this research to youth who have experienced foster care. [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

Sentenced to Life without Parole as a Juvenile: 'You Are My First Visitor in Over 40 Years'

For more than a decade I have interviewed more than 1,000 kids in 35 states. What of these kids who were sentenced to long sentences and JLWOP, life sentences without parole? These kids become adults who become geriatric. These are the people I have interviewed for the past year. [Read more . . .](#)

S.O.U.L. Sisters Empowers Black Girls Most Impacted by Inequality

Last month, a group of girls at a juvenile detention center in the Bronx sat in a discussion circle with a teaching artist and a social worker. After a series of circle meetings, the girls at Horizon Juvenile Center in New York City had created vision boards, collages in which they envisioned their life five years from now. The group was initiated by [S.O.U.L. Sisters Leadership Collective](#), a nonprofit that works to empower black girls who are "most impacted by oppression." [Read more . . .](#)

Tear Down the Juvenile Jails; They Make Bad Situations Worse

By Judge Steven Teske (Part 9)

Out of destruction can come re-birth. Like the phoenix, a mystical bird of Greek mythology that rises from the ashes of its predecessor, we are experiencing today a rebirth of a once promising trend in juvenile justice I refer to as deconstruction, which goes well beyond what we commonly call deinstitutionalization. [Read more . . .](#)

National Juvenile Justice Network Honors Leaders in Louisiana, Ohio

The National Juvenile Justice Network has announced its two annual awards. Verna Carr of New Orleans was awarded the Beth Arnovits Gutsy Advocate for Youth Award 2017. She first became involved with [Family and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children](#) six years ago when her then-13-year-old son had faced multiple suspensions, which began his trajectory into the school-to-prison pipeline. [Read more . . .](#)

Seven Tepees Stays with Kids 7 Years to Support School Success

Twenty-two years ago, a retired juvenile court judge in San Francisco teamed up with a Native American healer to help kids get on a positive path and avoid juvenile court. Superior Court Judge Daniel Weinstein and Hully Fetiçó — who was a youth probation commissioner as well as an athlete, dancer and healer — designed a small summer camping program in which low-income, underserved kids lived in seven tepees, each representing one [Read more . . .](#)

Getting Parents, Community Onboard With Youth Employment Programming

Youth employment programs are one of the most effective ways to assist disadvantaged youth, especially those in the juvenile justice system, in developing life competencies. Competent youth have a better chance of becoming competent adults. [Read more . . .](#)

Human Trafficking in Kansas

AG's Office Provides HT Training to Over 1,000 Police Officers this Past Fiscal Year

In the last fiscal year, which ended June 30, more than 1,000 Kansas police officers underwent trafficking training through a program coordinated by the Kansas Attorney General's Office and the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. According to Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, half of the state's sworn law enforcement officers have been trained on trafficking since 2013. [Read more . . .](#)

Human Trafficking - National

Combating Gangs in Communities

Federal, state, and local law enforcement officials testified at a hearing hosted by the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations examining gang violence, sex trafficking, and drugs. They spoke about the relationship between **gangs, sex trafficking, drugs**, and how **social media** has changed the fight against these crimes. [Watch video . . .](#)

National News

'This Is Wrong': The Hurdles Keeping Sexual Assault Survivors Behind Bars From Services

Jessica Seipel still remembers how intimidated she was the first time she entered a prison. "You go through a door and hear it slam behind you," she told *Rewire*. "Then you go through another door and you hear that slam behind you." [Read more . . .](#)

For Girls in Juvenile Hall, 'Trauma-informed' Yoga is a Saving Grace

The young women sat in a tight circle on purple mats, ready to start their weekly yoga session before lunch. A small centerpiece was set on the gym floor with flameless candles and inspirational stones that read "believe," "courage" and "blessing." "You're in control of your body," said instructor Rocana Enriquez as she guided them through a series of classic poses: Cat. Warrior. [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Why Reforming the Juvenile Justice System is an LGBTQ Issue

Did you know that nearly **40% of girls** in juvenile detention and correctional facilities identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning (LGBTQ) or gender nonconforming? That's more than four times the number of girls in the United States generally who identify as LGBTQ—and 85% LGBTQ youth who are incarcerated are youth of color. As outlined in a [report released today](#), incarcerated LGBTQ youth face alarming rates of discrimination, harassment, and sexual assault. [Read more . . .](#)

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risk assessment instruments such as the Juvenile Sexual Offense Recidivism Risk Assessment Tool-II (JSORRAT-II) and the Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism (ERASOR). Data obtained from the risk assessments reveal that the majority of youth served are low or moderate low risk. The following data represents the number of youth scored in each risk category: Low (39), Moderate-Low (14), Moderate (13), Moderate-High (4), and High (1). These findings are consistent with the research that suggests juveniles who commit sexual offenses are, by in large, a lower risk population. This serves to underscore KDOC's approach to providing evidence-based treatment to youth while they remain in the community.

Treatment is consistent with the risk, needs, responsibility approach and includes a focus on healthy sexual education and boundaries, sexual self-regulation social skills, risk reduction, and fostering a healthy identity. Group treatment has been held in Lawrence, Topeka, Junction City, Lenexa, and Wichita. There are currently two groups in Wichita. In addition to group treatment, many youth are being seen in individual therapy. In FY17, 17 youth were discharged from treatment. Of those 17, 10 completed treatment due to low risk, one youth absconded, one was revoked, four were terminated from treatment unsuccessfully, and sadly one youth died. Of the 10 youth who successfully completed treatment, the average length of treatment was four months. This data is encouraging and is consistent with the changes to length of supervision outlined in SB367.

Although the first year has not been without challenges, Clinical Associates remains committed to providing quality evaluation and treatment services to the youth of Kansas. We are appreciative of our community partners, all the feedback that has been provided to help identify areas for improvement, and we are excited to expand these services in year two. Entering year two of the contract we want to focus on increased growth and accessibility of services while making improvements with logistical and scheduling issues. If you have questions please contact can be directed to Seth at wescott@clinical-assoc.com or Megan Bradshaw, KDOC-JS, at megan.bradshaw@ks.gov.