

## Kansas News

### A Place of Safety: Finney County Children's Shelter Holds Open House

An open house was held Monday for the new Finney County Children's Shelter, an option aside from foster care for placement of minors who are removed from a bad situation. Katrina Pollet, executive director of the Finney County Department of Correction and Juvenile Detention Center, said the process to refurbish and repurpose part of the existing Finney County JDC over the past year was necessary to help minors. After a children's shelter was closed last year in Hays, children were being sent across the state to Wichita or Kansas City, Pollet said. [Read more . . .](#)

### Has The Kansas Juvenile Justice Reform Law Helped Push Kids Into Foster Care?

Advocates say a two-year-old juvenile justice law that is helping keep children who commit low-level crimes out of jail may be pushing kids with mental illnesses and behavioral issues into the already strained foster care system. [Listen to audio . . .](#)

### DCF – Family First Updates

To access the February edition of the DCF [Family First Prevention](#) Services newsletter [click here . . .](#)

## Human Trafficking - Kansas

### Human Trafficking Complex, Often Misunderstood

The arrest of a 54-year-old Topeka man accused of human trafficking last week was concerning, but also the kind of story that be misunderstood. In the wake of such news, rumors can spread on social media, stereotypes can be trotted out, and ultimately, many of us can miss the point altogether. Undergirding those rumors? The myth that human trafficking always involves the abduction of children for use as sex slaves. [Read more . . .](#)

## 2020 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

### New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training

Topeka (KJCC)	Tuesday	March 17 <sup>th</sup>
Salina		April - TBD
Times	10 am – 4:00 pm	

All intake workers, supervisors and anyone who approves intakes and placement decisions must be trained in administering the KDAI. These trainings are reserved for intake workers and supervisors. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Steve Bonner at [steven.bonner@ks.gov](mailto:steven.bonner@ks.gov)

### Effective Practices in Correctional Settings II/Graduated Responses (EPICS II/GR)

Location – Sedgwick County Juvenile Field Services, 3803 E Harry, Suite 125, Wichita

Dates -	Tuesday	March 31	8:30 am – 5 pm
	Wednesday	April 1	8:30 am – 5 pm
	Thursday	April 2	8:30 am – 12 pm

To Enroll - Email [KDOC\\_JS\\_Training@ks.gov](mailto:KDOC_JS_Training@ks.gov)  
Participants name, agency, position, phone #,  
email address and supervisor's name.

For more information contact [KDOC\\_JS\\_Training@ks.gov](mailto:KDOC_JS_Training@ks.gov)

### Mental Health Training Curriculum – Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ)

**KJCC** - The Mental Health Training Curriculum – Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ) will be available for new employees from Judicial Districts to attend at Kansas Juvenile Correction Complex as a part of KJCC's new employee orientation.

To inquire about upcoming trainings or if you have questions please contact Lt. Johnathon Ashley at [johnathon.ashley@ks.gov](mailto:johnathon.ashley@ks.gov) or 785-354-9820. KJCC will have MHTC-JJ training as a part of their basic training for new employees approximately every four weeks.

### Moral Reconciliation Therapy Training

Location – Youth & Family Services Center; 920 W Spruce, Olathe, KS

Dates	Tuesday	May 12	8:30 am – 5 pm
	Wednesday	May 13	8:30 am – 5 pm
	Thursday	May 14	8:30 am – 5 pm
	Friday	May 15	8:30 am – 5 pm

To Enroll - Email [KDOC\\_CO\\_MRT@ks.gov](mailto:KDOC_CO_MRT@ks.gov)

### Parent Project Facilitator Training

Location – Salina  
Dates Monday, March 30 – Friday, April 3 8 am – 5 pm  
To inquire or enroll - Email [KDOC\\_CO\\_ParentProject@ks.gov](mailto:KDOC_CO_ParentProject@ks.gov)

### KDOC-JS Community Legal Issues Training

Location – KBI Auditorium, 2001 SW Washburn, Topeka  
Dates Friday, April 3 9 am – 12 noon  
To enroll – [Click here . . .](#)

## National News

### Legislation Would Require Prosecutors to Track Data on Race, Gender

A new bill aims to increase transparency in Utah's criminal justice system by mandating that prosecutors keep track of who is being arrested and tried in the state. The bill, which was introduced last Friday by Rep. Marsha Judkins, R-Provo, would require county prosecutors, jails and courts in Utah to keep data on the race, ethnicity and gender, among other data points, of [Read more . . .](#)

## The Juvenile Justice Corner

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

It is hard to believe we are already moving into March Madness season. With some of the issues currently, being addressed related to juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health and education among others, it would be easy to get so caught up in the potential changes that we get distracted from the here and now. However, part of what we do is focus on what needs to be done today.

As we send this newsletter out each month, you will find upcoming training opportunities both in the Web-Line and in the email. Every month the email contains information and links to webinars provided by [Justice Clearinghouse](#) (JC) that are relative to our work. Because JC continues to provide quality and pertinent webinars, KDOC-JS purchased subscriptions for each Judicial District to use locally with their staff. Through these subscriptions, you can access webinars that were previously recorded and are available through the JC website. .

In addition, if you are aware of training opportunities that could be beneficial for colleagues across the state, we can include that information so others can benefit. Just forward that information to [james.johnson2@ks.gov](mailto:james.johnson2@ks.gov).

So moving forward, lets take advantage of those opportunities that are available for training and personal development. That being said, make sure you take a little time to embrace the madness of March.

## Kansas News

### Legislative Update

At the end of February, the 2020 Legislature was at mid-session. Below is a brief summary and status report of several bills that may be of interest to individuals involved in the juvenile justice. To help you keep current with a bills status, a link is provided for each bill.

**HB 2505 (Allowing a greater use of detention for juvenile offenders who violate probation.)** HB 2505 would allow courts to remand juvenile offenders to a juvenile detention center for no longer than 48 hours if the offender is found to have violated the conditions of their sentence for the fourth time. The bill would allow courts to remand juvenile offenders to a juvenile detention center for no more than five days upon the fifth violation of the condition of their sentence. A hearing was held February 18<sup>th</sup> in the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice. No action was taken and this bill did not get out of the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice.

**HB 2699 (Requiring court services officers to assist with child in need of care cases when directed by a judge).** HB 2699 would amend the statute in the Revised Kansas Code for Care of Children governing authorized dispositions by the court to allow the court to order supervision of a case by a court services officer (CSO) when a child is in the custody of the Secretary for Children and Families (Secretary).

A hearing was held February 17<sup>th</sup> in the House Committee on Judiciary and passed out of committee. HB 2699 was passed by the House 105-20 on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>. [Supplemental Note of HB 2699.](#)

**HB 2590 (Allowing law enforcement to have access to certain data from the department for children and families).** HB 2590 would amend the Kansas Code for Care of Children and expand the sharing of information with law enforcement agencies concerning children and minors who are subject to the Child in Need of Care Code. The bill would also permit law enforcement agencies to access DCF systems that contain information related to children for the purpose of ensuring the safety of any child and the child's family. This bill did not have a hearing and did not get out of the House Committee on Judiciary.

**HB 2445 (Allowing children who run away to be placed in a juvenile detention facility for 24 hours).** HB 2445 would amend the Child in Need of Care Code by expanding the definition of "secure facility" to include county operated juvenile detention centers. The bill would also permit the court to enter an order directing a child, who has run away, to be held in a juvenile detention center for 24 hours with no extensions allowed. A [hearing](#) was held January 28<sup>th</sup> in the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice. No action was taken and this bill did not get out of the House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice.

**ERO 44** (An Executive Order renaming the Kansas department for children and families the Kansas department of human services; abolishing the Kansas department for aging and disability services and transferring the functions to the Kansas department of human services; transferring the functions of the department of corrections regarding the juvenile services programs and juvenile facilities and institutions to the Kansas department of human services.)

The House referred ERO 44 to the House Committee on Appropriations who held a hearing on Feb 11. The House Committee on Appropriations then approved [House Resolution 6032](#) to disapprove ERO 44. The House has not yet taken action on HR 6032.

The Senate referred ERO 44 to the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare who held hearings on Feb 18 and 19. The House Committee on Public Health and Welfare then approved [Senate Resolution 1761](#) to disapprove ERO 44. The Senate has not yet taken action on HR 1761.

## Girls in the Juvenile Justice System

### Policy Center uncovers 'crisis' status of Florida girls

"There are cohorts of girls who are at greater risk for trauma, mental health challenges, exploitation, and/or system involvement than their peers," according to new report from Jacksonville's Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center. Girls in Florida are "in crisis." One in three contemplated suicide or experienced depression, one in 10 was raped and one in four did not feel she could ask a parent for help, according to a new report from Jacksonville's Delores Barr Weaver **Policy Center**. [Read more . . .](#)

## Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

### Recommendations for Addressing Racial Bias in Risk and Needs Assessment in the Juvenile Justice System

Research indicates that justice interventions and heightened levels of supervision can increase the likelihood of future offending for low-risk populations and reduce the likelihood of offending for high-risk youth. Therefore, identifying who is low-risk—and then limiting the types of justice interventions used for this population, is critical for keeping the public safe while minimizing the level of harm associated with state involvement in a youth's life. Risk and needs assessments are implemented to assist with [Read more . . .](#)

## Annie E. Casey Foundation

### JDAI's Expanded Focus Sees Results in Transforming Juvenile Probation

A [journal article](#) recently published in *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* reported promising changes in organizational culture among probation staff in Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative® sites participating in an effort to reduce the placement of young people in residential institutions. The deep-end initiative focuses specifically on reducing placement of youth of color, who are disproportionately represented in youth prisons and other facilities and on [Read more . . .](#)

### Leadership Approach Contributes to Juvenile Justice Gains

Could gains for young people involved in the juvenile justice system in one **New York** county be replicated throughout the region? Since 2014, Onondaga County (home to Syracuse) has been practicing [Results Count®](#), a leadership approach developed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to improve outcomes for children, families and communities. According to local justice leaders, an unwavering focus on results, which includes having the right stakeholders at the table, with a shared sense of what it takes to achieve specific, measurable change on behalf of [Read more . . .](#)

### Prosecutor-Led Juvenile Justice Reforms

A new webinar explores prosecutor-led efforts to reform the juvenile justice system by implementing measures that are less adversarial and less punitive. *Prosecutors as Leaders of Reform* features three prosecutors from [JDAI®](#) jurisdictions (Harris County, **Texas**; King County, **Washington**; and **Philadelphia**) who are using the power of their offices to advance rehabilitation, fairness, equity and accountability. [Read more and watch webinar . . .](#)

## Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

### Plea Bargaining Hurts Both Guilty and Innocent Kids

By Judge Steven Teske

It is a case of mistaken identity, and unfortunately you happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time, which circumstantially lends credence to the eyewitness account that you committed the crime. Pause - yes, this could really happen to you. It happens more than you think. One study showed that 99.5% [Read more . . .](#)

### To Use Evidence-based Programs for Kids, Get the Lawyers Out of Here!

By Judge Steven Teske

Negotiating dispositions have no place in our juvenile courtrooms. Let's examine this assertion using Johnny as a case study. He is 15 years old and before the juvenile court for battery on a teacher, affray, disrupting public school, disorderly conduct and criminal damage to government property. The battery and damage to government property offenses are felonies, which make Johnny eligible in most states for probation or commitment to the state's department of juvenile justice for placement [Read more . . .](#)

### How Juvenile Justice Systems Must Balance Risk Assessment with Racial Equity

As the juvenile justice system has evolved, the use of statistics and data to inform decision-making have become commonplace. Risk assessment in the juvenile justice system is widely used across the United States to predict whether a youth is likely to recidivate. Typically, risk assessments are structured interviews conducted by court personnel (e.g. probation officers) that provide a score to indicate a youth's risk of reoffending. Risk assessments are generally grounded in the Risk Needs Responsivity model of offender rehabilitation, [Read more . . .](#)

## Human Trafficking - National

### Advocates Say Human Trafficking Hard to Stop, Often Starts at Home

Human trafficking is an ongoing epidemic in the United States. It doesn't just happen in movies. It happens in small towns, big cities, and right here in the **Tennessee Valley**. Channel 3 sat down with law enforcement and advocates to talk about the state of human trafficking in Tennessee. Mimi Nikkel with Love's Arm outreach said most human trafficking victims experience prior sexual abuse. Their pasts make them targets. [Read more . . .](#)

### Human Trafficking: Who is Really Targeted?

Rumors spread around social media about victims being stalked through Walmart, or reading a note placed on their windshield just before they're abducted, are rarely the case when it comes to human trafficking. "Most human traffickers actually have a grooming process and know the person," said Tricia Knoles, the public information officer for Kent State University PD. **Ohio** has the 4th highest rate of reported human trafficking [Read more . . .](#)

## National News

### A Complete Juvenile Justice System Matters to N.M.

In the past 10 years, the number of youth detained in **New Mexico** county detention facilities has gone down by 39 percent, from 4,056 in 2010 to 1,597 in 2019. As more and more juvenile detention beds stayed empty, county juvenile detention facilities closed. Today only six of the 14 facilities that were open in 2010 remain, and at least two of these are considering closure. Cost of operation is a significant factor in the decision to close. [Read more . . .](#)

### Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force Holds First Public Meeting

"My thanks to the members of the Task Force for sharing their time and expertise to begin the process of designing a juvenile justice system that works for all **Pennsylvania** youth," Governor [Tom Wolf](#) said. "I look forward to seeing the progress of the Task Force – what they learn, gather and share during this process." Gov. Wolf, judicial and legislative leaders announced the Task Force in January as part of a larger effort in partnership with Pew Charitable Trust to deliver a report with data-driven findings and policy recommendations to strengthen Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to [Read more . . .](#)

### Marion Police Hope to Use Mentors, Diversion to Reduce Youth Crime

Marion (**Ohio**) police want to focus on more than arrests in confronting crime committed by Marion youth. This year, the Marion Police Department hopes to win a federal grant to hire three more police officers with the aim of driving down juvenile crime through mentoring of at-risk youth and through a diversion program to steer low-level or first-time juvenile offenders out of the criminal justice system, Marion Police Major Jon Shaffer told the Star. "It's kind of like an extension of our MPACT program," he said, referring to the police department's community [Read more . . .](#)

### Group Advises Investments to Reduce Juvenile Incarcerations

Working to keep the youth of **Maine** on a positive track and away from incarceration is the goal of the Juvenile Justice System Assessment and Reinvestment Task Force. "That's really our goal here is to reduce our reliance on incarceration in the state of Maine," said Randall Liberty, Commissioner of Corrections. They're working on the root causes of incarceration. "It's important because we find issues with those in the system directly deal with mental health, substance abuse, poverty, neglect, and learning disabilities," said Liberty. [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

### Adult and Juvenile Judicial Systems: What's the Difference?

The differences between the adult and juvenile justice systems come down to nuances in language and focus on rehabilitation. We talked with local justice system officials to learn more about the differences in the two systems. In language, juveniles are detained, not arrested, and the process to figure out consequences is disposition, not punishment. Juveniles are not [Read more . . .](#)

### Law Firm Establishes Program to Help At-Risk Youth in Houston

I'm always looking for good stories on criminal justice reform. Reform is such an uphill battle, so when I recently spoke to Joel Androphy on a trip to New York, he told me about how his firm has worked to establish a pro bono program in Houston that truly gives inner-city youth a second chance. In October 2012, the law firm [Berg & Androphy](#) brought [Michelle Alexander](#) to Houston to speak at the [Progressive Forum](#). Her book, [The New Jim Crow](#), is recognized nationwide as having created a bipartisan criminal justice reform movement. Her powerful speech inspired [Joel Androphy](#), a nationally recognized white-collar defense attorney, to search for a location to establish a pro bono program to provide zealous representation in criminal cases for young minorities in **Houston**. That vision came to reality when [Read more . . .](#)