

## Kansas News

### Report: Kansas Juvenile Justice Funds Could Run Out by 2024

A Kansas fund intended to help keep young people out of prison could be out of money by 2024 if spending and projected funding remains the same, according to the non-partisan legislative research department.

The Evidence-based Programs Fund grew out of a 2016 law designed to shift the focus in juvenile justice from incarceration to rehabilitation. The effort has had some success, with population at the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex dropping 40% in five years. [Read more . . . .](#)

### Kansas Fund Intended to Keep Youth Out of Prison is Projected to be Empty by 2024

[Read more . . . .](#)

### WPD Juvenile Intervention Unit Using YouTube to Build Connections

Wichita police officers Alex Avendano and DL Watson run the Wichita Police Department's juvenile intervention unit. The unit launched last September with one main goal, help reduce youth crime in the city. Its something officer Watson has been passionate about for years saying "I noticed that we needed more positive interactions with the young kids, and basically a foundation to bring them up." [Read more and watch video . . . .](#)

### DCF – Family First Updates

To access the April/May 2021 edition of the DCF [Family First Prevention](#) Services newsletter [click here . . . .](#)

### Two Hays Students Among FHSU Criminal Justice Club Winners at Regionals

Members of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon chapter at Fort Hays State University represented their university well at the Region 3 Virtual Conference of the American Criminal Justice Association/Lambda Alpha Epsilon (ACJA/LAE) earlier this semester.

Fort Hays State won the Top Percent Award, which goes to the team that wins the most trophy points per member. It was the first time FHSU won the group award since re-chartering with ACJA/LAE in 2016. [Read more . . . .](#)

### Sunnyside Elementary Student Wins Justice Department's National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

The votes are in and Sunnyside Elementary School student Heidi Jimena Perez Veleta of Dodge City, was announced as the winner of the 2021 National Missing Children's Day poster contest.

According to the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, the poster contest was part of the 38th annual commemoration of National Missing Children's Day. [Read more . . . .](#)

## 2021 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

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

Zoom	Tuesday	June 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021
Zoom	Thursday	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2021
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. Due to COVID-19 precautions, KDAI trainings are being provided via the zoom platform. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Steve Bonner at [steven.bonner@ks.gov](mailto:steven.bonner@ks.gov)

### Juvenile Justice Basics

Location – Class is online, offered through Zoom  
 Date Tuesday June 8 8:30 am – 3:30 pm  
 To Enroll - Sign up using the Learning Management System (LMS)  
 For more information contact email [KDOC\\_JS\\_Training@ks.gov](mailto:KDOC_JS_Training@ks.gov)

## National Conference of State Legislatures

### Principles of Effective Juvenile Justice Policy Update Updated May, 2021

In 2018, NCSL published the [Principles of Effective Juvenile Justice Policy](#). This publication, developed in partnership with the public safety performance project (PSPP) of The Pew Charitable Trusts, culminated 11 months of work in 2017 by the NCSL Juvenile Justice Principles Work Group.

The work of this group, and the report produced in 2018, capture fundamental principles for juvenile justice policy.

The principles are rooted in research, reflect bipartisan or nonpartisan values, and help states invest in proven methods to put justice-involved youth back on the right track while keeping communities safe. After developing the principles, the work group explained and illustrated them with examples of key issues and approaches. [Read more . . . .](#)

## The Juvenile Justice Corner

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

*"Ready or not – here I come."* The call given out with the popular children's game *Hide and seek*. But this can also be applied to the experience of the immediate transition of a youth in state custody returning home after being incarcerated at the state's juvenile correctional facility. Going through transitions in life can at times feel a bit overwhelming, not just for the youth returning home, but for other family members as well.

To help youth and families through this process the [Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex](#) (KJCC) recently announced that they are now providing Family Therapy to assist KJCC youth in successfully reintegrating back into their family and community. By supporting the youth and family in a way that may improve communications and relationships within the family, stressor involved with family reunification can be addressed and the family unit strengthened.

According to Megan Milner, KJCC Superintendent, "the focus areas of family therapy include improving communication, setting healthy boundaries, addressing family situations, strengthening family problem solving skills, and healing family trauma. Family therapy helps to prepare the family and resident to minimize the stress and anxiety commonly associated with residents returning home after incarceration."

The plan is to start offering family therapy using the Zoom platform. Requests for a referral form can be made by contacting the youth's assigned Corrections Counselor at KJCC. If you are not sure who the counselor is you can contact the KJCC Program Director, Marissa Reinbold at [Marissa.Reinbold@ks.gov](mailto:Marissa.Reinbold@ks.gov).

So with the help of this program, what was once "Ready or not – here I come" may soon become "Ready – here I come."

**Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex - Update**  
**Marissa Reinbold, Program Director**  
**DOC - Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex**

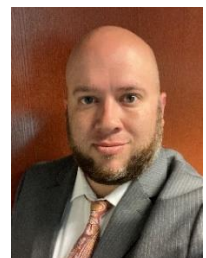
One of the predominate programs at [Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex](#) (KJCC) is *Thinking for a Change* (T4C). T4C emphasizes interpersonal communication skill development and challenges the youth's thought patterns that can lead to problematic behaviors. The program has three components: cognitive self-change, social skills, and problem-solving skills. Lessons on cognitive self-change provide the youth with a thorough process for self-reflection aimed at uncovering antisocial thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and beliefs. Social skills instruction prepares youth to engage in pro-social interactions based on self-understanding and consideration of the impact of their actions on others. Finally, problem solving skills integrate the two previous interventions to provide youth with an explicit step-by-step process for addressing challenging and stressful real-life situations.

Prior to or upon admission to KJCC, youth are given a Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory assessment (YLS/CMI) to determine his or her major needs, strengths, and barriers.

*Continued next page . . .*

**The Crossover Youth Practice Model - Update**  
**Michelle Montgomery, CYPM Coordinator**  
**Kansas Department of Corrections – Juvenile Services**

This month we would like to introduce a member of the Kansas Crossover State Policy Team (SPT). Brady Burdge, Sedgwick County Assistant District Attorney, has been one of the partners working to tackle various issues around crossover youth at the state level. His knowledge of Kansas statutes and the juvenile codes helps the SPT members to develop effective methods for cross-agency information sharing. As a prosecutor, Brady has involvement with youth in both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. He recognizes that the prosecutor has a lot of control or input in determining how cases are handled. Regarding his role on the SPT, Brady stated, "My role is to provide a voice and perspective from the prosecutor." He added, "it is vital that we are a part of the process of coming up with solutions or processes for addressing the needs and complex nature of crossover youth." While CYPM is currently in Sedgwick County and is being implemented in Montgomery and Shawnee Counties, plans are for statewide implementation. When asked how other attorneys can support CYPM in their counties, Brady suggested, "The best way to support crossover youth is to get educated about the services and programs available in your jurisdictions. There are a lot more resources available than people realize and we all need to be proactive in the way we approach our cases. It is also important to voice any concerns or suggestions to your local court or bar association so that each community can come together and work a plan as a cohesive unit. There are a lot of different agencies and people involved with crossover youth and it is important to have support and cooperation from all of them."



To learn more about the CCYPM and information regarding past and upcoming meetings of the State Policy Team [click here . . . .](#)

## National News – Crossover Youth

### Examining the Relationship Between Childhood Trauma and Involvement in the Justice System

A dangerous or life-threatening experience may become a traumatic event for a child. The child may see the event as an intense threat to his or her safety and will typically experience a high level of fear or helplessness. Trauma may result from a wide range of events, including accidents and natural disasters. Of great priority to those in the public safety and justice fields, traumatic experiences may be caused by exposure - as a victim or a witness - to community violence, domestic violence, sexual abuse, or terrorist attacks. Trauma experienced during childhood may result in profound and long-lasting negative effects [Read more . . .](#)

### Youth Trauma Experiences and the Path from Child Welfare to Juvenile Justice

Youth involved in the child welfare system and the juvenile justice system face high rates of trauma. In addition, youth involved in the child welfare system are likely to also be involved in the juvenile justice system. This study explores how trauma experiences can contribute to youth being involved in both systems. Of specific interest is the combined impact of trauma, history of child welfare involvement, and additional child, family, and community factors. We examine these relationships in a cohort of foster care [Read more . . .](#)

## National News

### Lawmakers and Advocates Seek to Keep Youth Offenders from Adult System Through Juvenile Justice Reforms

A wide variety of state and federal laws and policies treat minors differently from adults. People must be 21 to buy alcohol. The youngest someone can be to enlist in the military is 17. In Nevada, a person must be 16 to apply for a full driver's license. The differences have been perpetuated by case law, as well. In *Roper v. Simmons* (2005), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the death penalty unconstitutional for minors, and in *Graham v. Florida* (2010), the court held that life-without-parole for non-homicide crimes is an unconstitutional punishment [Read more . . .](#)

### Wyo's Juv Justice System Fails too many Kids. Can it be Fixed?

Wyoming officials knew something was seriously wrong with the state's juvenile justice system in 1970, when a governor's committee examined the issue and came to the startling conclusion that no system actually existed. "It is clear that there is no uniformity in the disposition of matters involving juveniles at the local level," the panel's report concluded. "Change has been slow to come." [Read more . . .](#)

### Report: Juvenile Arrest Rates Hit 30 Year Low in 2019

A recent report by two federal criminal justice agencies found that the number of juveniles being arrested for felony and misdemeanor crimes fell to its lowest point in decades in 2019. The report was released recently by the National Institute of Justice and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Both agencies are part of the U.S. Department of Justice. The report uses data collected by the FBI and documents juvenile felony [Read more . . .](#)

### San Diego DA Announces Diversion Program for Juveniles Facing Criminal Charges

The San Diego County (CA) District Attorney's Office Thursday announced an initiative aimed at offering alternatives to prosecution for juveniles facing criminal charges. The Juvenile Diversion Initiative program will allow minors facing felony or misdemeanor charges the option of entering into an early intervention program instead, which the DA's Office says will help reduce the number of young people entering the juvenile justice system and offer youths an opportunity to address the root causes of behaviors that led them to [Read more . . .](#)

### District Attorney Diverting Youth from the Juvenile Justice System into Arts Classes

The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office has begun diverting at-risk teenagers into after-school arts programs, with the goal of helping them avoid future possible involvement with the criminal justice system. The DAO and the Philadelphia Arts in Education Partnership (PAEP) have won a \$150,000 federal grant through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to fund a pilot program that identifies youth 14 - 17 with minor misdemeanors who might benefit from a diversion [Read more . . .](#)

### Juvenile Detention Center Takes Proactive Approach

The idea that children would want to stay in jail rather than return home or enter foster care is hard to imagine, but Erin K. Maloney says that's what they sometimes tell judges. The reason? Staff at the Northwestern Regional Juvenile Detention Center (Winchester, VA) on Fort Collier Road provides discipline and structure lacking in the child's often chaotic life, according to Maloney, who is the facility's superintendent. [Read more . . .](#)

## Human Trafficking – National

### Is Human Trafficking Worse Because of COVID-19?

"The risk factors for human trafficking have increased since the global pandemic," warns Katherine Chon, Director of the Office on Trafficking in Persons at the US Department of Health and Human Services. That's the bad news. Fortunately, there's also good news. With increasing awareness and with new approaches, countries throughout the world are becoming more effective at combatting this scourge. She also sees an important role for you, as an individual. We'll get to the encouraging part on a moment, but first, why did COVID-19 cause an increase in trafficking? [Read more . . .](#)

## Council of State Governments – Justice Center

### North Dakota Modernizes Juvenile Justice System

North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum signed bipartisan legislation on April 28 that is designed to increase access to services and improve outcomes for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The bill modernizes state law covering juvenile justice issues, which has not had a major overhaul since 1969. [Read more . . .](#)

### Hamilton County Launches Effort to Improve Juvenile Justice System

Hamilton County is the latest jurisdiction, and the first site in Ohio, to join a national initiative to launch a comprehensive, data-driven review of its juvenile justice system. The effort will identify strategies to improve outcomes for youth involved with the system while enhancing public safety. The project is part of the Improving Outcomes for Youth (IOYouth) initiative, which helps states and local jurisdictions align their policies, practices, and resource allocations with what research shows works to reduce recidivism and help young people succeed. The CSG Justice Center will perform the review, which will examine the system from diversion through reentry. [Read more . . .](#)

### President Biden's 2022 Budget Request Prioritizes Mental Health Services, Racial Equity Initiatives, and Workforce Development

On April 9, President Biden submitted his first discretionary budget request to Congress, which outlines his funding priorities for the 2022 fiscal year. The request spans an array of policy areas and includes several important investments related to the criminal and juvenile justice system—largely through increased funding to the Department of Justice (with an increase of \$1.8 billion for a total of \$35.2 billion) and the Department of Health and Human Services (with an increase of \$25.1 billion for a total of \$133.7 billion). [Read more . . .](#)

## KJCC – Update continued from page 1

With this tool, we identify youth who meet the criteria for admission into T4C. The criteria includes an overall risk score of 10 or above and a score of one or more in the Attitudes/Orientation domain of the YLS.

Once referred to T4C, youth are assigned to groups that include between 8-12 members of similar YLS risk scores. The curriculum comprises 25 lessons, meeting twice a week for approximately one hour in duration each session. Throughout the lessons, every group member is required to practice a new skill, usually in a role-play situation. After completing the lesson, group members are expected to practice the new skill in a real-life situation, by completing their homework, before they can move onto the next lesson.

At KJCC, we rely heavily on the multi-disciplinary team approach in our management of juvenile offenders. In order for this practice to be successful, we provide cognitive-based program training, such as T4C, to not only programming staff but uniformed staff as well. This gives our Security staff additional resources to address negative behaviors and model the appropriate social skills and problem-solving skills in the same fashion we expect the youth to. With this training, staff across the facility utilize T4C skills and tools to address behaviors on and off the living units, and to recognize and support the youth when they begin utilizing these new learned skills. Since FY18, the facility has provided the T4C curriculum to 143 juvenile offenders in our care. We have a 78% successful T4C completion rate for those youth, meaning they attended, participated appropriately, and completed the required role plays and homework for all lessons. The youth that successfully complete T4C have consistently had fewer Disciplinary Reports for violent and aggressive behaviors, fewer Restrictive Housing placements, and fewer uses of force. For example, the use of force numbers decreased by 92%! The number of disciplinary reports for fighting dropped 50% and the number of disciplinary reports for Insubordination and Disrespect dropped by 75%! This information leads us to believe that these youth learned to reflect on the situation, identify their current feelings and risky thinking prior to reacting. These are key concepts in behavior change for young adolescents, and we are extremely proud of the progress they made.