

S I N C E 1 9 9 4

F J J A

FLORIDA JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION



ABOUT FJJA

Founded in 1994, The Florida Juvenile Justice Association is a statewide organization that strongly



supports a common sense approach to juvenile justice that treats young people fairly, holds them accountable for their actions and keeps our neighborhoods, schools and communities safe.

The Association brings together juvenile justice system professionals and agencies and private and non-profit corporations committed to improving Florida's juvenile justice system for children and families.

We work with and care about at-risk youth in Florida, and we are committed to improving citizens' confidence in and reliance on the effectiveness and integrity of Florida's system of justice for its young people.

IN 2006, MEMBERS SERVED
OVER 80,000 AT RISK YOUTH
AND THEIR FAMILIES
AND EMPLOYED MORE THAN
7,000 FLORIDIANS.

OUR MISSION

The Florida Juvenile Justice Association promotes the availability and accessibility of comprehensive, high quality services to pre-delinquent and delinquent youth and their families.



FJJA STAFF

Cathy Craig-Myers • Executive Director

cathy@fjja.org • 850-294-9960

Lynn Redmond • Project Director

lynn@fjja.org • 850-322-1910



OUR PURPOSE

The Florida Juvenile Justice Association strives to:

- Promote public awareness and education of juvenile justice issues
- Contribute to the development of public policy regarding juvenile justice issues
- Support evaluation and research of juvenile justice issues.
- Provide training, technical assistance and consultation to Association members and related parties.

OUR CODE OF ETHICS AND STANDARD OF CARE

- We will provide a safe and secure environment for the protection of the public, staff and youth.
- We believe in the uniqueness, dignity and inherent worth of every individual. Further, we are committed to assisting each youth in our care in achieving their individual dignity.
- We will enhance the opportunity for youth to use their potential to succeed in an environment conducive to promoting socially acceptable behavior.
- We are committed to truthfulness and integrity in all our actions.
- We will promote and enforce ethical conduct.
- We shall conduct ourselves in a manner that prevents all forms or appearances of impropriety, placement of self-interest above public interest, prejudice, partiality, threats, favoritism, or undue influence.
- We will hold the confidentiality and privacy of the youth and families we serve.
- We are committed to a culture of learning, personal and professional development and continuous improvement of services to the youth and public.
- We will promote partnership and cooperation in order to achieve our common goals.

OUR MEMBERS

Members of the Florida Juvenile Justice Association serve youth in the juvenile justice system through a continuum of care, with services ranging from early intervention, prevention, day treatment, gender specific services, detention screening, specialized residential, transitional aftercare, conditional release, mental health services, substance abuse services, vocational education, and career preparation.

Agency for Community Treatment Services (ACTS)
Serving youth since 1978
www.actstfl.org

Bay Area Youth Services
Serving youth since 1982
www.baysflorida.org

Bay Point Schools
Serving youth since 1995
www.baypointschools.com

Bay Care, Harbor Behavioral Health Care Institute, Inc.
Serving youth since 1971
www.theharbor-bhci.org

Bridgeway Center, Inc.
Serving youth since 1972
www.bridgewaycenter.org

Broward County Sheriff's Office
Serving youth since 1915
www.sheriff.org

Center for Drug Free Living
Serving youth since 1971
www.cfdfl.com

Crosswinds Youth Services, Inc.
Serving youth since 1974
www.crosswindsyouthservices.org

Daniel Memorial, Inc.
Serving youth since 1884
www.danielkids.org

DISC Village, Inc.
Serving youth since 1971
www.discvillage.com

Drug Screens Solutions
www.drugscreeningsolutions.com

Evidence-Based Associates
Serving youth since 2004
www.evidencebasedassociates.com

Our Members Continued, Page 4

OUR MEMBERS CONTINUED

Gateway Community Services, Inc
Serving youth since 1978
www.gatewaycommunity.com

Girls Advocacy Project, Inc.
Serving youth since 1999
www.gapgirls.org

G4S Youth Services
Serving youth since 1997
www.g4s.com

Home Builders Institute
Serving youth since 1947
www.hbi.org

Human Services Associates
Serving youth since 1993
www.hsainc.org

Miami-Dade Juvenile Assessment Center
Serving youth since 1997
www.miamidade.gov

Miami's River of Life, Inc.
Serving youth since 1993

North American Family Institute (NAFI)
Serving youth since 1974
www.nafi.com

Operation PAR, Inc.
Serving youth since 1970
www.operationpar.org

Orange County Youth & Family Services
Serving youth since 1975
www.ocyfs.org

Outward Bound Discovery School
Serving youth since 1941
www.outwardbound.org

Premier Behavioral Solutions, Inc.
Serving youth since 1993

PsyCare Juvenile Justice Services
Serving youth since 1994

Psychotherapeutic Juvenile Services
Serving youth since 1989
www.psychotherapeuticservices.com

San Antonio Boys Village
Serving youth since 1970

Savannah Family Institute
www.gopll.com

Southwest Florida Addiction Services
Serving youth since 1980
www.swfas.org

Stewart-Marchman Center
Serving youth since 1970
www.stewartmarchman.org

Sunshine Youth Services
Serving youth since 1999
www.sunshinyouthservices.com

The Children's Trust
Funding youth services 1988
www.thechildrenstrust.org

TROY Community Academy
Serving youth since 1993
www.troycommunityacademy.com

Three Springs, Inc.
Serving youth since 1985
www.threesprings.com

Twin Oaks Juvenile Development Center
Serving youth since 1998

VisionQuest
Serving youth since 1973
www.vq.com

The Henry and Rilla White Youth Foundation, Inc.
Serving youth since 1988
www.hrwhite.org

Youth Services International, Inc.
Serving youth since 1991
www.ysii.com

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Balanced Continuum of Services

We believe that public safety is best served by promoting the development of a balanced continuum of juvenile justice services that include prevention, intervention, probation, commitment and aftercare.

Ethical and Professional Standards

We believe that all youth deserve services that are delivered in a manner that meets the highest professional and ethical standards.

The Right Services the First Time

We believe that all placement decisions should be individualized and based on the results of a comprehensive evaluation utilizing defined assessment protocols.

Policies and Services Research Based

We advocate for sound legislation and Department policies/procedures that are based on research and that contribute to and supports effective juvenile justice services.

Kids are Different than Adults

We recognize that the needs of children and adolescents are different than adults and we advocate for a responsive justice system that translate into effective policies, programs, and services.

Blend Public Safety and Treatment

We believe that programming is most effective when there is a balance between treatment and public safety considerations and we advocate for the least restrictive care to change lives and protect the public.

Access to Specialty Services

We believe that all youth in need of specialty services such as mental health and substance abuse must receive these services as part of the juvenile justice intervention.

Academic and Vocational Education are the Keys to Success

We understand that education is a key ingredient of a youth's success and advocate for dynamic and individualized educational and vocational services geared to the learning level of the youth served.

Adequate Funding for Quality Services

We understand that effective programming and successful public safety initiatives and the development of a professional workforce can only be achieved with adequate funding.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE: 1996-2008

Blueprint Commission 2006-2008

Advocated for a “blueprint commission” to review juvenile justice services as well as making recommendations for improvement.

Rate Study– 2006-2007

In partnership with the Department, the Association assisted in two comprehensive rate studies to define the true costs of IDDS, conditional release, day treatment, and residential services. Bearing Point completed the Probation and Community Service study in December of 2006. The Residential Services report was completed in January of 2007.

Rate Enhancement Campaign – 2005-2006

Developed and implemented a planned strategy to secure from the legislature the resources necessary to effectively serve youth in provider care and to build and retain a competent workforce. Successful in securing resources, \$5.5 million in 2005 and \$21 million in 2006, to enhance funding across the continuum.

Certification for Provider Staff – 2006

Co-chaired a legislative task force designed to determine the feasibility of developing a certification system for provider staff. Defined the classes to be included in a certification system and the mechanics of how such a system could be implemented based on funding.

Sexual Offender Review – 2006

Promoted legislature to review how juveniles who commit sexual offenses are handled in the juvenile justice system. Chaired a task force that made recommendations to the legislature on how to classify, assess and serve juveniles who commit a sexual offense.

Protective Action Response (PAR) – 2004

Pursued changes in PAR that reduced injury to youth and staff. Results include elimination of backward and forward roll; elimination of hammer, wrist/shoulder lock; PAR testing on-site; expanded test time and

more opportunities to take the test; course broken down into sections by need to know; and a menu of techniques allowing provider choice.

Hurricane Relief – 2004 & 2005

Assisted providers in their efforts to seek financial relief from the costs incurred by the four storms. Coordinated application efforts with FEMA and documented the fiscal impact of the four storms on the provider community.

Rate Adjustments – 2002-2004

Successful advocacy for modest rate adjustments to address the ever-rising costs of service delivery was accomplished by the Association. Adjustments to date include \$5.7 million for residential services (\$1.2 million in 2002, \$900,000 in 2003, \$3.6 million in 2004) and \$400,000 for IDDS in 2004.

Juvenile Justice Education – 1999, 2000, 2004, 2006

The Association played a leadership role in making the legislature aware of inequities in education for juvenile justice students. Three pieces of legislation were promoted and passed in 1999, 2000, and 2004 that resulted in more funding in the classroom, qualified teachers, district accountability, GED exit option, comprehensive assessment protocols, and the legislative defining of the basic parameters of juvenile justice education.

Preserved the Continuum – 2001-2003

The association aggressively fought to prevent cuts to front-end services (CINS/FINS, PACE, Day Treatment) during the 2001, 2002 and 2003 legislative sessions. All three services were preserved as part of the juvenile justice continuum.

Defining Specialty Care – 2002

Worked with the Department to define levels of specialty care and ensuring programming: care and custody; overlay; specialty; intensive and comprehensive. As a result, youth are provided in-depth mental health, substance abuse and sex offender services as their clinical diagnoses dictate.

Quality Assurance Challenge Process – 2002

The Association initiated discussion with the Department of Juvenile Justice on the need for a QA challenge process. Such a process was implemented in 2002.

Rate Study – 2001

Working with the Department, a comprehensive rate study defining the true cost of residential services was conducted. This study establishes a model rate for service delivery across all levels of residential care and all specialty services.

Food Buyers Group – 2001

Established a food buyers group with a minority vendor allowing providers to both purchase food and chemicals at reduced costs while receiving CMBE credits for each purchase. This has helped both the providers and the Department of Juvenile Justice to meet their minority participation targets.

Behavioral Health Overlay Services (BHOS) 1997

The Association was one of the primary authors of this unique financing program for substance abuse and mental health overlay services in juvenile justice residential programs. Presently, 2,100 BHOS overlay slots are available serving 4,000 youth annually.

Specialty Services – 1996

The Association advocated and lobbied for specialized funding to offer mental health, sex offender and substance abuse services to youth in state custody. Although no such beds were requested by the agency, the Association was able to secure funding for 233 specialty beds in 1997. Today 1,500 specialty beds are operational.

Co-Sponsors of the Annual Adolescent Treatment Issues Conference

The annual conference provides a high level training event presenting the latest evidence based research and clinical interventions found effective when treating at-risk or delinquent youth.