

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Researchers Find Drug Courts Reduce

Substance Abuse and Crime: Researchers at the Urban Institute, the Center for Court Innovation, and RTI International have recently completed perhaps the most ambitious study of drug courts to date. Funded by the National Institute of Justice, the five-year multi-site study compared participants in 23 drug courts in seven states to similar defendants who went through conventional case processing. The results offer vivid evidence that drug courts are effective at reducing both substance abuse and crime.

Among other findings, the study documented that drug court participants were one-third less likely to report using drugs 18 months after their enrollment in the program. And they were responsible for less than half as many criminal acts as the comparison group after 18 months. Largely because of these reductions in criminal behavior, drug courts ended up saving an estimated \$5,680 per participant; cost savings that closely resemble those found in previous studies in California and Washington State.

In examining why drug courts have succeeded, the evaluation focused in particular on the role of the judge and the value of procedural fairness. The fact that drug court participants generally had more favorable perceptions of the judge than the comparison group was among the most important factors explaining why drug courts reduced drug use and crime.

Continue reading: <http://tjpi.wordpress.com/2011/08/08/new-study-finds-drug-courts-reduce-substance-abuse-and-crime/>

Rise in Law Enforcement Fatalities Continues During First Half of 2011 - - Firearms-Related Deaths Reach 20-Year High: For the second year

in a row, law enforcement fatalities rose sharply nationwide during the first half of 2011, including 40 officers killed by gunfire--the highest number in two decades.

Ninety-eight law enforcement officers died in the line of duty during the first six months of this year, according to preliminary figures released by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), in conjunction with the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.). This represents a 14 percent increase over the 86 officers who lost their lives during the same time last year. The number of officers killed by firearms surged 33 percent higher than the first-half numbers for 2010. The one piece of good news in the report is that the number of officers killed in traffic-related incidents (42) declined by 17 percent compared to the first half of 2010. Traffic-related incidents have been the leading cause of law enforcement fatalities for each of the past 13 years.

Of the 98 officers who were killed during the first six months of this year: 40 officers were shot to death; 21 died in automobile crashes; 16 succumbed to job-related illnesses; seven were struck by automobiles while outside of their own vehicles; five were killed in motorcycle crashes; two were struck by a train; one officer died in an aircraft crash; one was beaten to death; one was electrocuted; one died in a fall; one was killed in a bomb blast; one was crushed to death; and one was strangled.

Florida and Texas were the deadliest states in the nation over the past six months for law enforcement officers with 10 fatalities each; followed by New York with eight; Ohio with seven; and California, Michigan and Tennessee with four each. Nine of the officers killed during the first half of the year served with Federal agencies, and five served with corrections agencies. The average age of the officers who died was 41. On average, they served for 13

years and eight of the officers who died were women.

Continue reading: <http://news.yahoo.com/rise-law-enforcement-fatalities-continues-during-first-half-000609160.html>

Overloaded Public Defense Systems Result in

More Prison Time, Less Justice: The ongoing overburdening of U.S. public defense systems that serve millions of people annually is jeopardizing the fairness of our justice system and can result in more and longer prison sentences, according to a report published today by the Justice Policy Institute. According to the report, 73 percent of county-based public defender offices lacked the requisite number of attorneys to meet caseload standards; 23 percent of these offices had less than half of the necessary attorneys to meet caseload standards. With an increasing overload of cases, lack of quality defense and a shortage of resources, the report argues, justice is not being served and the wellbeing of millions of people is at stake.

System Overload: The Costs of Under-Resourcing Public Defense found that public defense systems across the country are overburdened, and considers how the busting-at-the-seams systems affect state and county budgets, the lives of those behind bars, the impact on their families, and the challenges of re-entering communities after serving time. The study further looks at why dedicated public defenders do not have enough time to conduct thorough investigations, or meet with and provide quality representation for their clients – many of whom are low-income earners and people of color – contributing to disparities in the criminal justice system.

Continue reading: <http://www.justicepolicy.org/news/2757>

TRAINING/RESOURCES

Free Grant Writing Seminars: OCJS is hosting free Grant Writing seminars in 2011. OCJS's grant trainings provide an overview of identifying grant sources, analyzing program objectives, creating a budget, seeking letters of support, and writing proposals. Federal and state grants available to criminal justice professionals are discussed. Attendees also receive the OCJS publication, *Grant Writing: Identifying and Applying for*

Funding in a Competitive Market. Grant writing 101 trainings take place on the following dates: **September 22, October 12, November 7 and December 14**. Please visit http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/GrantTraining_2011.pdf to view class titles.

Specialized Grant trainings for the remainder of the year are: *Designing an Effective Evaluation Strategy (October 12).*

All trainings are held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Motorcycle Classroom, located at 1970 W. Broad St., Columbus, on the first floor. To download and print a training registration form, visit: http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/ocjs_TrainingForm.pdf

TRAINING/RESOURCES CONT.

Domestic Violence Ethics Training: Are you a licensed social worker or counselor looking for ethics continuing education units? Or are you interested in understanding how to do ethical domestic violence advocacy? If so, ODVN is offering five ethics training across the state. This training will provide advocates with guidance as to their ethical responsibilities and obligations when working with survivors of domestic violence. The training will examine our own views and beliefs about the work with do with survivors and discuss such core themes such as confidentiality, empowerment, setting appropriate boundaries with survivors, and supporting survivors in their decisions. We will brainstorm together ways to address common ethical dilemmas, keeping central the core concept of self-determination.

These trainings cost \$30 for ODVN members and \$65 for non-members, and will fulfill the ethics requirements for licensed social workers and counselors. The trainings are scheduled for:

- September 9 in Dayton from 12:45-4:00,
- September 29 in Athens from 9:45-1:00,
- October 5 in Kent from 12:45-4:00
- October 7 in Findlay from 12:45-4:00
- October 14 in Newark

To register for any of the trainings listed above, please go to http://www.odvn.org/index.php?option=com_registrationpro&view=events&Itemid=12and click on the name of the training you want to register for. You will have the opportunity to pay by check or by credit card. If you are interested in sending a large number of staff, please contact me directly and we can discuss a group rate. If you

have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at rachelr@odvn.org.

Access To Housing - Survivors With Criminal Records (Webinar): Many domestic violence survivors have criminal history that is directly related to the acts of abuse committed against them, such as arrests and convictions that stem from self-defense and coercion by the abuser. Unfortunately, some survivors are denied subsidized housing as a result of this criminal history. This webinar will provide an overview of the rules that apply to subsidized housing applicants who have criminal history. We will cover the narrow circumstances in which subsidized housing providers are required to deny housing assistance, and we will also discuss the discretion that housing providers have in screening criminal history. Additionally, we will outline advocacy approaches that have been used to assist housing applicants with criminal history. Finally, we will present model policies that housing providers can adopt to ensure that survivors are not unfairly denied housing based on their criminal history.

When: Wednesday, September 7 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT.

This free, 90 minute training is designed for attorneys, advocates and caseworkers who are new to the rules regarding subsidized housing and criminal records.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/163268638>

Brought to you by the National Housing Law Project.

How Attorneys Can Help Victims of Human Trafficking: This training is open to all areas of law, including, but not limited to Criminal, Civil, Juvenile, Family, Immigration, etc.

Purposes of this training are to raise awareness of human trafficking among legal professionals and to train and recruit attorneys willing to provide pro-bono services to victims of trafficking throughout the state of Ohio. Any participant who provides 10 hours of pro-bono services to victims of trafficking will be refunded their registration fee.

The training will include the following: the Definition and Scope of Human Trafficking, Federal and Ohio Human Trafficking Law, Victim Advocacy, a Panel on Collaboration, and a discussion of human trafficking cases.

When: Wednesday, September 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Saxbe Auditorium, Mortiz College of Law, 55 W. 12th Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43210

Cost:
Registration = \$100
government attorneys = \$50
Students and non-attorneys are free

6.75 CLEs (pending approval) and lunch will be provided.

To register: contact Stephanie Rapp of the Salvation Army at 614.437.2147 or visit <http://www.ahtattorneytraining.eventbrite.com>

This event is brought to you by the Salvation Army.

GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Correctional Health Care Executive Curriculum Development: The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Administration Division is seeking applications for the development of a competency-based correctional health care executive curriculum to train two-person teams comprised of a Warden, Associate Warden, or Jail Administrator and a Health Services Administrator. This project will be for an eighteen-month period. NIC Administration Division staff will direct the project and will participate in curriculum design, lesson plan development, and the creation of related material.

Eligible applicants include any state or general unit of local government, private agencies, educational institutions, individuals, organizations, or teams with expertise in the described areas. Applicants must have demonstrated ability to implement a project of this size and scope.

Review Considerations: Applications received under this announcement will be subject to a NIC review process consisting of a three to five person team. Evaluation will be based on criteria such as:

- clarity of applicant's understanding of project tasks
- background, experience, and expertise of the proposed project staff, including subcontractors
- specific experience with and expertise in local jail and/or prison health care administration;
- innovative approaches, techniques, or design aspects that enhance the project
- experience with curriculum design based on ITIP
- experience in designing, managing, facilitating, or delivering training on correctional health-care-related topics;
- clarity of the description of all project elements and tasks

- technical soundness of the project design and methodology
- financial and administrative integrity of the proposal, including adherence to federal financial guidelines and processes
- a sufficiently detailed budget that shows consideration of all contingencies for this project and a commitment to work within the proposed budget
- an indication of availability to meet with NIC staff at various points during the project
- design and quality of sample curriculum

Deadline: Applications must be received by **4:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, August 26, 2011.**

For more information, contact Pamela Davison at 202.353.0484.

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