

A Chiefs /Provider committee meeting was held in conjunction with the quarterly General Membership Meeting of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers in State College on May 12, 2011. Updates pertaining to the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) were given. A *Statement of Purpose* for the JJSES has been made, which will involve a collaborative effort of system stakeholders to enhance Pennsylvania's juvenile justice mission. This *Statement of Purpose* has been endorsed by JCJC, the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, the Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of PCCD. Private providers may contact Bruce Grim at [bruceg@pccyfs.org](mailto:bruceg@pccyfs.org) to endorse the statement of purpose.

Dan Rhoads of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission gave a detailed presentation regarding the Youth Level of Service (YLS) assessment tool, including an explanation of evidence-based practices, an overview of the assessment, information regarding criminogenic needs, an introduction and explanation of the domains of the YLS, and a discussion on risk reduction. In the near future treatment providers should expect to receive copies of the YLS assessment as part of referral packets. Twenty-four counties have been registered to participate in the third phase of training for the YLS on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 3, 2011. After the third phase of training, there will be fifty counties using the YLS as their assessment and case planning tool.

Candace Putter of the Pennsylvania Academic/Career & Technical Training Alliance (PACTT Alliance) gave a brief history of the organization and reviewed its goals, which include improving academics in residential facilities, ensuring that facilities have career-technical programs which are aligned with industry standards, ensuring that credit transfer occurs consistently, facilitating system change, and providing opportunities for work experience. More information is available at <http://pacttalliance.org/academics.html>.

Chiefs/Providers Forum attendees reviewed Senate Bill 929, which addresses service provider concerns regarding payment for cost of services, purchase-of-service contract extension and prompt payment language, appointment of a rate-determination-process task force, and return to county generated Needs Based Budget requests based on projected cost of needed services. House Bill 829, which requires advance quarterly payment of Needs Based Budget allocations to counties, was also reviewed. Attendees were encouraged to voice their support for both bills to their senators, representatives, and county commissioners.

Additional updates were provided regarding Family Involvement, the MAYSI-2, the Pennsylvania Juvenile Delinquency Data Analysis Tool (JDDAT), the Quality Improvement Initiative (QII), and the upcoming Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.