Juvenile Justice
Circuit Boards and
County Councils Highlights

A Statewide Overview for 2010-11

Wanda Finnie, Assistant Secretary

Rick Scott, Governor Wansley Walters, Secretary
OUR MISSION
To increase public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth.

OUR VISION
The children and families of Florida will live in safe, nurturing communities that provide for their needs, recognize their strengths and support their success.

Section 985.664 Florida Statute - Juvenile Justice Circuit Board and Juvenile Justice County Council

There is authorized a juvenile justice circuit board to be established in each of the 20 judicial circuits and a juvenile justice county council to be established in each of the 67 counties. The purpose of each juvenile justice circuit board and each juvenile justice county council is to provide advice and direction to the department in the development and implementation of juvenile justice programs and to work collaboratively with the department in seeking program improvements and policy changes to address the emerging and changing needs of Florida’s youth who are at risk of delinquency.
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**JUVENILE JUSTICE CIRCUIT BOARDS AND COUNTY COUNCILS**

1st Circuit Board  
Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton

2nd Circuit Board  
Franklin, Wakulla, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty,

3rd Circuit Board  
Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor

4th Circuit Board  
Nassau, Duval, Clay

5th Circuit Board  
Lake, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando

6th Circuit Board  
Pasco, Pinellas

7th Circuit Board  
Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns, Volusia

8th Circuit Board  
Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, Union

9th Circuit Board  
Orange, Osceola

10th Circuit Board  
Polk, Hardee, Highlands

11th Circuit Board  
Miami-Dade

12th Circuit Board  
DeSoto, Manatee, Sarasota

13th Circuit Board  
Hillsborough

14th Circuit Board  
Holmes, Washington, Bay, Jackson, Calhoun, Gulf

15th Circuit Board  
Palm Beach

16th Circuit Board  
Monroe

17th Circuit Board  
Broward

18th Circuit Board  
Seminole, Brevard

19th Circuit Board  
Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin

20th Circuit Board  
Charlotte, Glades, Lee, Hendry, Collier

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INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF REPORT

The Juvenile Justice Circuit Boards and County Councils (Boards and Councils) were created by the 1993 Florida Legislature to involve local communities in the planning and development of the local juvenile justice system. Since their establishment in the state, the boards and councils have involved hundreds of local leaders and citizens in addressing the issue of juvenile crime in their communities. As partners with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), the boards and councils have participated in various DJJ efforts and have undertaken local initiatives to address specific needs in their communities.

In accordance with Section 985.664 Florida Statute, the Boards and Councils are required to develop annual reports. This report was developed based on the information presented in the circuit annual reports submitted by the Boards and Councils and from information obtained through local DJJ staff. It is an attempt by DJJ to provide a statewide overview of the Boards and Councils and their varied activities. It is not feasible to provide an in-depth or detailed report on all the specific initiatives and activities throughout the state. This report is an effort to provide an overview of the Boards and Councils and their activities; discuss how the DJJ and the Boards and Councils have worked in partnership on various issues; and, provide a sampling of the types of local efforts and initiatives that have been undertaken by the Boards and Councils around the state.

In reviewing the information in this report, it must be kept in mind that the Boards and Councils continue to evolve in their organization and development. This report is intended to provide a “snapshot” of these groups throughout the state – rather than an in-depth review and analysis.

HISTORICAL AND LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

The Boards and Councils were established by the “Criminal Justice Act of 1993” Chapter 39.025 Florida Statutes, and revised in 2005, Section 985.664 Florida Statute.

The Legislative intent when the Boards and Councils were created:

- to authorize and encourage each of the counties of the state to establish a comprehensive juvenile justice plan based upon the input of representatives of every affected public or private entity, organization, or group;
- to allow representatives of school systems, the judiciary, law enforcement, and DJJ to acquire a thorough understanding of the role and responsibility that each has in addressing juvenile delinquency in the community, that the county juvenile justice plan reflect an understanding of the legal and fiscal limits within the plan must be implemented, and that willingness of the parties to cooperate and collaborate in implementing the plan be explicitly stated; and
- that county juvenile justice plans form the basis of and be integrated into circuit
juvenile justice plans and that the prevention and treatment resources at the county, district, and regional levels be utilized to the maximum extent possible to implement and further the goals of their respective plans.

The membership of the county councils provides for board participation and involvement of the “stakeholders” in the juvenile justice system, including: district school superintendents, local government officials, representatives of the local school system including administrators, teachers, school counselors, parents, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) administrator, representatives of local law enforcement, representatives of the judicial system, representatives of the business community and interested officials, groups, such as children services councils, public or private providers of justice programs and services, students and advocates.

The statutory purpose of each juvenile justice circuit board and each juvenile justice county council is:

- to provide advice and direction to the DJJ in the development and implementation of juvenile justice programs;
- to work collaboratively with the DJJ in seeking program improvements and policy changes; and
- to address the emerging and changing needs of Florida’s youth who are at risk of delinquency.

The membership of the circuit board is comprised of representatives from the councils within the circuits. The role and functions of the circuit boards, as provided for by 985.664 Florida Statute, are outlined below.

- Circuit boards shall collaborate with county councils to develop a comprehensive plan for the circuit that is based upon the county plans in the circuit.
- Participate in facilitating interagency cooperation and information sharing.
- Advise and assist DJJ with the evaluation and award of prevention and early intervention grants, including the Community Juvenile Justice Partnership Grant Program and proceeds from the Invest in Children license plate annual use fees.
- Advise the DJJ and the Secretary of the DJJ regarding the development of the legislative budget requests for juvenile justice programs and obtain funding for prevention and early intervention programs and service, and children who are at-risk of delinquency within the circuit or region.
- Provide a written annual report on the activities of the board to the DJJ. The report should also include county council information and highlights. Suggested inclusion in
the report is an assessment of the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs and services in the circuit, recommendations for elimination, modification, or expansion of existing programs, and suggestions for new programs or services in the continuum that would meet the needs of children and families in the circuit.

OVERVIEW OF THE BOARDS AND COUNCILS

Currently, there are 20 circuit boards and 45 county councils, covering all 67 counties. The Boards and Councils are active throughout the state with various levels of participation. While the size and structure of the groups vary statewide, the boards and councils have active memberships consisting of local stakeholders directly involved in addressing juvenile justice issues in their communities. One of the unique characteristics of the juvenile justice boards and councils is the direct involvement of elected officials. While some of the groups have a limited involvement of elected officials, the participation of local officials, such as school board members, sheriffs, judges, city and county commissioners – many of whom hold leadership positions with the board or council – has allowed the boards and councils the ability to impact the local juvenile justice system through the direct involvement of major community decision-makers. The Boards and Councils also involve juvenile justice providers, including the DJJ and DJJ contracted services providers.

The membership of the Boards and Councils are volunteers who have other positions and duties outside of their membership on the Boards and Councils. While a board or council meeting may last 1-2 hours, it must be noted that there are also a large number of additional meetings held by committees, task forces, and other local groups working as a part of the juvenile justice boards and councils (See B & C Community Involvement, page 22). The Boards and Councils provide a valuable volunteer resource in Florida’s fight against juvenile crime.

CIRCUIT BOARDS AND COUNTY COUNCILS COORDINATION

The Office of Circuit Boards and County Councils was established in 2008, for the purpose of creating an effective line of communication between the boards and councils and DJJ headquarters office. The Office of Circuit Boards and County Councils provides oversight, technical assistance, support, and coordination of statewide activities. Some of the supportive activities coordinated for the boards and councils are organizing statewide meetings, completing statewide reports, organizing legislative phone conferencing, coordinating technical assistance, and organizing meetings and phone conferencing with the DJJ Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretary. All of which is intended to improve communication and advise the boards and councils of various issues with a statewide perspective or impact.

DJJ Executive Leadership Officials often attend statewide board chairs meetings and local circuit meetings. This interaction with local communities provide an opportunity for DJJ officials to advise the Boards and Councils on statewide issues and provide a means by which the circuit
boards and county councils can address issues with the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretaries.

Local DJJ staff serves as a liaison between the department and the boards and councils and is available to provide limited support and assistance. DJJ staff provides information and serves as a resource for the boards and councils and is available to assist boards and councils in their mission to work on juvenile justice issues with the department.

STATEWIDE BOARD AND COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The boards and councils have engaged in a number of coordinated activities throughout the state. These activities resulted from either statutory duties and responsibilities, or DJJ’s policies or procedures for a particular program, which provides for the involvement of the boards and councils. The department scheduled numerous informational conference calls to assist the boards and councils in participating in these efforts. This section will briefly provide a recap of the various programs and activities that the Boards and Councils have been involved in during the 2010-11 FY.

**Board and Council Regional Workshops**

The Office of Circuit Boards and County Councils held its **West Region Workshop, Circuits 1, 2, & 14** in Marianna, Fl on January 28, 2011 and its **North Region Workshop, Circuits 3, 4, 5, 7, & 8** in Alachua, Fl on April 15, 2011. The purpose of the regional workshops was to:

- Improve communication with circuit boards and county councils;
- Assist circuit boards and county councils in their efforts to become more interdependent;
- Assist in the planning for a better and organized circuit board and county council; and
- To provide necessary tools to strengthen circuit board and council chairs’ leadership role.

Participants attended mini workshops covering the Sunshine Law, Proverbial Leadership, Board and Council Legislative Authority and Developing Community Partnerships. The boards and councils had an opportunity to spotlight initiatives in their circuits during the workshop which also received rave reviews. DJJ briefings were discussed on Funding Streams, Faith Community, the Positive Achievement Change Tools (PACT), and Reentry. The workshop was well received and resulted in open dialogue with DJJ staff and workshop attendees. Board and council chairs also received a Certificate of Appreciation for their efforts in working on juvenile justice issues with the Department.
Circuit Board Chairs Meeting

In September 2010, the **Circuit Board Chairs Meeting** was held at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando, Florida. DJJ formal Secretary, Frank Peterman, Jr. addressed Circuit Board Chairs with opening remarks and DJJ Executive Leadership Team shared program updates and future directions in their divisions. The Circuit Board Chairs Meeting was held in conjunction with DJJ "Our Children, Our Future" Faith Symposium and all board chairs were afforded the opportunity to attend the summit following the circuit board meeting.

**Boards and Councils Survey - Improving Community Involvement**

Prevention and Victim Services collaborated with Probation and Community Intervention to improve community involvement and further clarify the roles and purposes of these partnerships as local voices for youth and the community, through Juvenile Justice Circuit Boards, the Faith Network, Mentors, and Community Re-entry Teams. Two statewide surveys were conducted with Board and Council members and Faith Partners to review current practices, best practices and to encourage participation from community leaders. The survey results can also be located on the Department’s web site.

The first survey focused on general preferences for meetings and ways to encourage community participation.

- The majority survey respondents reported that they attended more than half of the scheduled meetings during the year and preferred daytime face to face meetings, but wanted an option for a teleconference line for all meetings.
- With regard to increasing community participation respondents recommended more community outreach for awareness, focusing the meetings on goals and having local Department leadership involved to increase volunteer participation.
- The majority of respondents recommended youth success stories be shared to encourage and motivate membership.

The second survey looked at understanding the barriers to engaging community partners as well as best practices that create engagement with stakeholder

- Respondents recommended that goals and objectives of circuit boards need to be better defined, as well as defining the roles and responsibilities of members. More effective communication with communities through a variety of media to keep partners informed was also recommended. Many respondents cited that they face shrinking staff and increasing demand which limits time and resources available.
- In circuits where local leaders maintained a presence with the board, community participation was strong. It was also recommended that it is important to use members and partners to build relationships with each other and in their communities to share information about partner activities and involvement.
• Recognizing each community has its own unique culture and needs and meeting those needs is important for success. A number of Boards have been successful by inviting other agencies and community leaders to participate in the meetings as a way to draw more stakeholders from the community.

**Boards and Councils Monthly Spotlight**

In an effort to spread the good news of the outstanding work the Boards and Councils are involved in, the Office of Circuit Boards and County Councils has initiated the **Boards and Councils Spotlight** throughout the year. Several Boards and Councils have participated in the spotlight as they fulfill their mission of working on juvenile justice issues with the department. The Boards and Councils Spotlight recognize Boards and Councils that demonstrate community collaboration to develop a program or initiative that shows efforts toward reducing juvenile crime. Many Boards and Councils have used the spotlight as an opportunity to showcase their circuit’s hard work while some may use it as an opportunity to become creative in their efforts to fulfill their mission.

**Legislative Conference Calls**

Informational conference calls were held during the regular 2011 legislative session. The DJJ Office of Legislative Affairs provided bi-weekly updates with the purpose of involving the boards and councils in DJJ’s legislative process and improving DJJ’s communication efforts. This is one of the many efforts that DJJ is involved in with the Circuit Boards and community stakeholders to improve information sharing and communication with DJJ HQ office. The Circuit Boards were taken through a process of submitting their recommendations for the DJJ’s Legislative Budget Request (LBR) 2010-11. Likewise, the development of the DJJ’s substantive legislative issues also provided for input from the Boards and Councils. All conference call minutes were posted for review on DJJ website.

**DJJ Youth Success Week - April 4-9, 2011**

DJJ’s Annual Youth Success Week (YSW), with the theme “Part of the Community, Part of the Solution”, highlighted the Department’s role in reducing crime and delinquency through emphasis on prevention, diversion and intervention efforts in partnership with local communities. YSW emphasized the success that the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), its partners and providers have in turning around the lives of Florida's at-risk and troubled children. Gov. Rick Scott and Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll joined DJJ Secretary Wansley Walters at the Capitol to celebrate DJJ Youth Success Day. Among other participants, there was 2011 DJJ Youth Success Ambassador, Michael Long who currently attends the New College of Florida, where he serves as president of the student alliance. DJJ joined with Children’s Week again this year to celebrate the success of juvenile justice-involved youth as they work to build a brighter future, and the partnerships that make youth achievement possible. Concerned citizens,
stakeholders and service agencies from across Florida came to the Capitol to share valuable information concerning children's issues.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Initiative
Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) is defined in the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act as existing when the proportion of juveniles detained or confined in secure detention facilities, secure correctional facilities, jails, and lockups who are members of minority groups exceeds the proportion such groups represent in the general population. In Florida, 98% of counties have black youth overrepresented in the juvenile justice system. Each circuit board is encouraged to have a DMC Committee that advocates addressing the issue of DMC in their local community. The committee plays a crucial role in ensuring that minority youth receive prevention and intervention services in their community. Strategies to address DMC must be community-led and citizen-driven. The purpose of the DMC Initiative is to ensure fair and equitable treatment of youth regardless of their racial or ethnic background.

- During the 2010-11 FY, 24 Detention Centers were visited to address the issue of DMC and Restorative Justice amongst the youth.
- Prevention and intervention DMC programs were initiated in the seven (7) high delinquency referral counties (Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Orange, and Duval).
- DMC prevention workshops were held in three high DMC areas (Gadsden County, Hillsborough County, and Orange County). The community came together to address the issue of overrepresentation.
- Two Neighborhood Accountability Boards (NAB) were developed in Manatee and Leon County led by participation of community residents, representatives from the business, faith and education communities, the criminal and juvenile justice systems, other local government resources and multi-discipline human service providers; collectively uniting everyone to develop and implement a strategic community justice.
- Florida had a Relative Rate Index (RRI) reduction of .15. The RRI provides a single index number that indicates the extent to which the volume of contact differs for minority youth and white youth.
- Alachua County had the biggest RRI decrease with 21%.

Faith Community Network (FCN) & Chaplaincy Services
The Faith Community Network (FCN) and Chaplaincy Services program is flexible by design. Because each community has its own unique needs and resources, the Faith Community
Network is composed of individual initiatives in each judicial circuit working collectively to help prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency across the State of Florida. The Circuit Faith Community Network Steering Committee is encouraged to organize itself in a manner that will address the issues of children in their specific geographical area. The organization, direction and efforts of the local Faith Community Network should support the Prevention Plan as established by the Juvenile Justice Boards and Councils.

Each circuit board is encouraged to have a Faith Representative that serves as a member of the Faith Community Network & Chaplaincy Services program. The FCN partnership with statewide faith and community-based organizations is critical to ensuring that programs and services for youth are available in their local communities and neighborhoods, especially during times of family crisis. The FCN representative on the circuit board is key to communicating the message and raising awareness of issues impacting at-risk youth and their families in the local community.

- Currently, more than 1,400 faith communities and faith-based organizations serve as Faith Partners providing services such mentoring, tutoring, after school programs, pastoral care and counseling.

- A (6) hour Volunteer Chaplaincy Basic Training has been developed that ensures all of our Chaplains are prepared to successfully serve the youth and families within the juvenile justice system. To date, (423) volunteer Chaplains and faith volunteers have completed the Chaplains Basic Training.

- A Faith Community Network/Chaplaincy Leadership Team has been developed in each of the 20 Judicial Circuits to provide oversight and support to Faith Network Partners and volunteer Chaplains in their designated circuit area. Currently, a Chaplain has been designated in each detention center and state operated residential program. Chaplains are in the process of being recruited in the remaining residential programs.

- To date partnerships with statewide organizations include the 11th District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Florida Catholic Conference, Sports World Ministries, Trinity Broadcast Network, Kenneth Copeland Ministries, and Upward Bound Outreach Ministries.

- More than 525 faith partners, community volunteers and DJJ Staff participated in “Our Children, Our Future’ Regional Faith Community Network Faith Forums have been held in St. Petersburg, Miami and West Palm Beach.

- More than 250 faith volunteers, juvenile justice staff and faith partners participated in the “Our Children, Our Future” Faith and Community Symposium and Training held September 28-29, 2010 in Orlando. (31) workshops were held that focused on raising awareness of issues impacting at-risk youth and their families, educating faith communities on the juvenile justice system, connecting resources of community and

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faith based organizations, as well as providing training to improve and enhance faith and community based programs and services to at-risk youth.

Community Juvenile Justice Partnership Grants

The Community Juvenile Justice Partnership Grant Program provides funding for prevention and early intervention programs in local communities. This program is funded through the Motor Vehicle Prevention Fund, which receives a $1 portion of fees added to every vehicle registration in the state. DJJ looks to the boards and councils for recommendations on funding programs, which address the needs identified in the local plans. In fiscal year 2010-11, the partnership grant program awarded approximately $441,878 to 11 community based programs throughout the state of Florida.

Invest in Children Licenses Plate Funding

The Florida Legislature approved an automobile license plate, Invest in Children, specifically designed to promote community awareness of the need to prevent juvenile delinquency. The revenue generated from the sale of the tag is allocated for programs and services within each county. Proceeds collected in each county from the sale of these tags will be used in that county for juvenile justice prevention and intervention programs, based on the recommendations of the county juvenile justice council and circuit board. The process for the distribution of the Invest in Children funds is finalized by the DJJ. Specialty plate sales for the Invest in Children tag for the 2010-11 fiscal year generated $311,473.

LOCAL INITIATIVES OF THE BOARDS AND COUNCILS

During 2010-11 FY, the Juvenile Justice Circuit Boards and County Councils were involved in a broad range of local initiatives and activities. The following section will look at some of the specific local community efforts that have been accomplished and will provide only a sampling of some of their activities and community initiatives addressing juvenile justice. The information in this section was obtained from the boards and councils 2010-11 Annual Reports.

Circuit 1 (Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton)

- Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton County Juvenile Justice Councils have partnerships with local anti-drug Coalitions. These groups coordinate among each other to raise community awareness and work to prevent juvenile substance abuse and resulting delinquency associated with youth drug use.
Escambia County

- Escambia County Juvenile Justice Council planned several activities for DJJ Youth Success Week. Activities included a Poster and Essay Contest, Employee Appreciation and Youth Awards Ceremony. Over twenty-five youth were recognized for their hard work, achievements, and progressions. Escambia County Sheriff David Morgan was the guest speaker for the Youth Award Ceremony which included other guests such as Escambia County Superintendent of Schools Malcolm Thomas and Captain David Alexander with the Pensacola Police Department and representatives from local community stakeholders.

Walton County

- Throughout the year Walton County Juvenile Justice Council has identify local resources and providers of youth services to present at council meetings. The presentations educate members on what is available in the community to assist youth and families.

Circuit 2 (Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, and Wakulla)

Franklin County

- As part of the Juvenile Justice Youth Success Week, the TIGERS Program youth took part in DJJ activities. According to established County tradition, the group of students assembled on the Courthouse steps in Apalachicola where the County Commission Chair presented a signed Resolution to recognize Juvenile Justice Youth Success Week.

- The Franklin County Juvenile Justice Council addressed the issue of bullying in local schools. Guest speaker, Dr. Lois Catlin, led the discussion and provided workshop materials. Following this discussion, an anti-bullying task force was initiated to include interagency partners, church groups and community members. In keeping with the County Plan to promote cooperation and collaboration among community partners to reduce juvenile crime, this activity has opened the door for community members to come together to solve social problems, and increased participation of interagency partners with the local Juvenile Justice Council.

Gadsden County

- Throughout the year the Gadsden County Juvenile Justice Council supports the re-establishment of the Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP).

- The Gadsden JJC has worked toward the implementation of the Gadsden County Juvenile Delinquency Plan and the Comprehensive Juvenile Justice Plan. The number of school initiated school referrals were reduced by 20%. The disproportionate number of minority group youth who came into contact with the juvenile justice system was
reduced by 20%. The number of delinquency referrals in the 32351 Zip Code was reduced.

- The Council participated in the Board and Council Regional Workshops, Circuit Meetings, Conference Calls, Bill Tracking, and continuous monitoring of Juvenile Justice Council Issues and Legislative Alerts.

Leon County

- Leon County Juvenile Justice Council participated in the Grand Opening of the newly formed Palmer Munroe Teen Center on August 23, 2010. The Council contributed $10,000 to Palmer Munroe Teen Center for video/audio electronic equipment. A member of the Youth Advisory Committee of Palmer Munroe is now a voting member of the County Council.

- A Spring Fundraiser was held March 18, 2011 to support local providers. This year's theme was "It Takes a Village: Together We Make a Difference." The event included dinner, entertainment by local youth, door prizes, a special guest speaker, a video, music, dancing, and a montage that showcased local community partners and agencies working together. The event generated $1,500 and the Council intends to make it an annual event.

- In promotion of DJJ Youth Success Week, Council members participated in several activities during the week. Promoted the Walker Ford Basketball game hosted by Council Chair Joe Thomas. Participated in the DJJ/Providers Annual Softball game which included Department of Juvenile Justice and AMIKids-Tallahassee, Tallahassee Police Department-SHOCAP unit, and the Juvenile Court Judge Karen Gievers

- Palmer Munroe Teen Center in collaboration with 50 Large and the Gang Reduction Task Force held a “Be-Out” day of activities during Teacher Planning Day. Council members made a commitment to support newly developed Project Payback Restitution Program (Restorative Justice) launched by The Henry and Rilla White Foundation. Local Business Mackenzie Oil Co. generated a fund whereby local youth may contribute community service hours and their earnings go towards victim restitution.

Circuit 3 (Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor)

Circuit 4 (Clay, Duval, and Nassau)

Duval County

- Duval Council members participated in the “Rally in Tally” in April 2011. This was an event to inform the Legislature about children’s concerns including juvenile justice issues.

Circuit 5 (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion, and Sumter)
• Circuit 5 Board sponsored its annual circuit-wide conference event. The conference was provided FREE to all attendees and was a result of a collaborative effort by circuit board members and the professional community. The Circuit Board recognized Probation and Detention staff of the Year and the Department of Children and Families recognized their staff. Awardees were commended by their peers and presented a framed certificate. Attendees received conference CEU’s and the event was “Spotlighted” on the DJJ website.

Marion County
• The Marion County Juvenile Justice Council held a Legislative Forum in partnership with the Florida Juvenile Justice Association and PACE Center for Girls to educate state and local officials and candidates on juvenile justice trends, needs, and issues.
• Marion County Council Members and local agencies participated in Red Ribbon Week events, such as the Kick-Off event sponsored by the Ocala Police Department. The event included activities focused on the purpose of Red Ribbon week. Social service agencies provided literature to attendees and all food and drinks were free to all participants.
• The Marion JJC held several presentations on trends in local juvenile crime and delinquency, particularly offenses at schools and the impact of zero tolerance legislative changes with the goal of better representation on local juvenile justice issues.

Lake County
• The Lake County Council participated in the community led activities - STICKER SHOCK which is an Alcohol Awareness Campaign and included placing stickers on alcohol containers prior to purchase, making the consumer aware of risks of alcohol consumption.

Circuit 6 (Pasco and Pinellas)

Pasco County
• Pasco County Juvenile Justice Council hosted its Annual "Turnaround Recognition" Ceremony at the Land O Lakes Community Center. Each program that serves students at risk and are a part of the Pasco County Juvenile Justice Program selected two students who made a marvelous “Turn Around” while involved in their program. Seven outstanding students were honored. Senator Fasano was the guest speaker as turnaround students were honored from PACE Center for girls, Big Brother Big Sisters, Youth and Family Alternatives, and AMI Kids Pasco.
• Pasco Council members and ASAP volunteers participated in the Statewide Pill Drop on August 21, 2010. Pasco County collected 832 total lbs $626 lbs. of pills/medication and 206 lbs. of sharps. Over 250 people stopped by to drop off meds and received proper
disposal educational information and ASAP materials. The local Walgreens store provided bags for all who stopped by.

Circuit 7 (Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns, and Volusia)

Flagler County

- Flagler JJC Community Garden hosted “Kiwanis One Work Day” Every year local Kiwanis Groups sponsor a work day, within the community. Kiwanis members and their families worked the garden and the finished the installation and planting of a complete Vertical Garden.

- The Council hosted Flagler County Teen Court Mock Trial on Petty Theft. All Teen Court volunteers did an exceptional job presenting the case. There was 100 participating youth who learned a great deal about Teen Court, and had interesting questions concerning the Judicial System and the role of the Department of Juvenile Justice plays within the system.

- DJJ Community Garden Advisory Council was nominated for 2010 Volusia/Flagler County’s United Way Volunteer Award, and was runner-up.

Putnam County

- Putnam Juvenile Justice Council participated in DJJ Youth Success Week activity - An evening event held at the Ravine Gardens with over 300 participants. Middle Schools in the area were in attendance with support from the Superintendent of Schools, local Sheriff’s Dept and Police Department. There was standing room only and numerous activities and entertainment by the students. Complete meals were sponsored by the Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition and numerous recognitions of student successes.

- DJJ-Putnam County recently established a Re-entry Team with Council members and the White Foundation. The re-entry team has been developed to assist in the transitioning of children from the residential facilities, back into their communities. The purpose is to assist the students with any needed resources and referrals for a smooth transition into their school and home environments. Parents are invited to attend and partake in the transitioning process and services for the benefit of the child. Presently, three students have been staffed in their return to the community

- Putnam JJC assists the Police Athletic League (PAL) in their newly created “Beat the Streets” boxing club with 150 + participants through the Guardian Program and a Century 21 grant. They have expanded to include 3 sites (Crescent City, Palatka, and Interlachen). Their “Fight Night” events recently have had over 900 attendees. Putnam Council members are active participants in the provision of food and beverage booths during fight nights. PAL has added a “Wrestling Team” to their roster of activities; 2010 Summer Youth Sports Camp at two locations

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Volusia County

- Volusia County Juvenile Justice County Council had a strong presence at the Volusia County Health and Human Services Summit on October 29, 2010. This event was sponsored by One Voice for Volusia and agencies had the opportunity to highlight their work and services in the community. All agencies in the council had a plaque stating their membership as well as flyers on their table sharing with the community the role of the council and inviting anyone to participate. As a result of participation in this summit, the Council gained 3 new members!

- The Volusia JJC participated in Youth Success Week by holding its 3rd annual Employee and Volunteer Recognition Award Ceremony. The event was held at the My Refuge Christian Center. There were 9 agencies that participated and 19 individuals that were honored at the event. The event was highlighted in the Daytona Beach News Journal and several agencies collaborated in order to make this event a huge success.

- The Volusia JJC has been an active participant in Circuit 7 Disproportionate Minority Contact Steering Committee. Meetings are held prior to the Circuit 7 Board meeting. There is a representative from the council at each meeting. The council, as a whole, is committed to educating themselves on the statistics and impact, as well as focused on assisting the Circuit in finding a solution.

Circuit 8 (Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union)

Levy County

- Levy County Juvenile Justice Council established a Youth Expo Steering Committee for community event help in June 2011. This highly successful event provided youth and parents in Levy County with a Summer Guide of activities and events that are available for youth. Participants were provided free food, drinks and activities. In addition, service providers set up tables and provided information on community services. Approximately 75 families attended this inaugural event.

Baker County

- The Baker County Juvenile Justice Council provided an annual back to school service in partnership with other community service providers. A family that is determined to be in need is provided new clothing, school supplies, backpacks and personal supplies to prepare all youth in the family for back to school. Many DJJ youth and families have benefitted from the community service.

Circuit 9 (Orange and Osceola)

- The Circuit 9 Juvenile Justice Board worked tirelessly with both the Orange and Osceola Counties Juvenile Justice Councils and local leaders to keep the Osceola Regional
Detention Center open. Despite the hard work and determination, due to department budget shortfall, the center has been scheduled for closure in August 2010.

**Osceola County**
- Osceola JJC facilitated meetings between various providers and community members to identify several programs for youth in need of services.

**Orange County**
- The Orange County Council Chair presented at the 25th Annual Preventing Crime in the Black Community conference.
- Orange JJC participated in Juvenile Justice Week activities by providing information to local community members. The Orange County Juvenile Justice Center won the "Golden State Safety Award".
- Orange JJC members participated in a collaborative social service event called "Healthy Minds, Healthy Lives" which provided a wealth of information to zip codes 32805, 32808, 32811, and surrounding areas. The event was sponsored by the Orange County Government (YFS Division) as part of the Mental Health Awareness Month. Participating probation youth were provided volunteer hours and earned community service credits.
- Orange JJC has worked collaboratively with the Safe Schools Healthy Students grant and assisted in expanding the suspension center for youth, titled Youth Central to the east side of town. Parents had an opportunity to attend an evidenced based parenting group called Parenting with Love and Limits while at the center.

**Circuit 10 (Hardee, Highlands, and Polk)**
- Circuit 10, DJJ, Polk County’s Teen Pregnancy Prevention Alliance and over 100 community partner agencies formed a true collaboration at Teen Summit 2011. Partners used music, dance, dramatic skits and special guest appearances to help bring awareness to and educate more than 500 local youth and adults about teen pregnancy and risky behaviors. The event was free for youth 10-19. Participants received a free lunch, T-shirts and thousands of dollars in incentives were given to participants throughout the day including lap tops, digital cameras, and gift certificates. Teens discussed and learned about life issues, as well as listening to several presentations.

**Circuit 11 (Dade)**
- Circuit 11 Juvenile Justice Schools Committee met throughout the year and established a list of gaps in services being provided to youth. A pilot program was created to address the gaps identified and worked within that program to provide real and measurable services to youth. The pilot program was developed in partnership with the
Miami-Dade Schools Police Department, the Miami-Dade School District and the Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department.

- The pilot created a: centralized reporting location for all youth referred; centralized assessment location for youth and families identified as in need of services; a centralized location for officers to contact to help determine best plans for youth encountered whether from association or activity with criminal elements or simply youth in need for social service; a method for reviewing and assessing each child encountered by law enforcement so all facts are present and decision making is accomplished for the best possible outcome for the youth and community; an ability to expand the pilot and change from a committee program to a procedural change in handling juveniles throughout the entire county.

**Circuit 12 (Desoto, Manatee, and Sarasota)**

**Manatee County**

- Manatee County Juvenile Justice Council held its 4th Annual Youth Recognition Awards Program on June 16th. Nine youth from Manatee were honored.
- Throughout the year Manatee JJC invited local agencies to Council meetings to speak to Council members on what is available in the County for youth as well as new initiatives beginning in the County that could help the youth.

**Sarasota County**

- Sarasota County Juvenile Justice County attended and participated in the Girl’s Summit for 5th and 6th grade students focusing on Prevention and Intervention.
- Throughout the year Sarasota JJC invited local agencies to Council meetings to speak to Council members on what is available in the County for youth as well as new initiatives beginning in the County that could help the youth.
- Sarasota JJC held its 4th Annual Youth Recognition Awards Program, honoring five youth from Sarasota County.

**Circuit 13 (Hillsborough)**

- Circuit 13 Juvenile Justice Board co-sponsored the Youth Resource Exchange event with the Hillsborough Healthy Teen Network. The Board arranged the training segment focusing on topics pertinent to today’s juvenile justice practitioners. The 2010 training event focused on the new Background Screening law. The United Way paid for the speaker and was a 3rd co-sponsor. There were several programs represented at this annual training event.
• Circuit 13 Board has televised Meetings. The Board meetings are formal and televised by Hillsborough Television (HTV cable system). The meetings offer DJJ updates, committee reports, and guest speakers regarding programs, issues and needs in Hillsborough County. This has been an excellent source to reaching out to the community.

• Circuit 13 Board was a partner in the creation of the Children of Hillsborough’s Incarcerated Parents (CHIP), and maintains an interest in its implementation and expansion. Data shows a significant percentage of juvenile justice clients have an incarcerated parent.

Circuit 14 (Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, and Washington)

• Circuit 14 Board members participated in various training sessions and workshops held throughout the county/state. One such training included the Regional Workshop for Circuits 1, 2 and 14 held in Marianna, FL, on January 28, 2011. Members were able to participate in breakout groups and discuss such topics as effective leadership skills, developing community partners and the Sunshine Law.

Bay County

• Bay County Juvenile Justice Council participated in a host of activities in observance of DJJ Youth Success Week. It was celebrated by a Proclamation signing and photo opportunity with City of Panama City Mayor Scott Clemons. During Youth Success Week, April 3-9, 2011, students from the After School Assistance Program (ASAP), Inc. toured the Bay County Juvenile Justice Courthouse and met with Juvenile Judges Mallory and Register for an explanation of courtroom proceedings and oversight, as well as staff functions and key focus of the 14th Judicial Circuit. Approximately 15 ASAP students were also able to tour bailiff stations, holding cells, and security monitoring camera areas.

• Other activities during DJJ Youth Success Week included (1) a tour of the Panama City Police Department followed by job shadowing activities with several on-duty officers; (2) a volunteer recognition luncheon to acknowledge local agencies and individuals for their outstanding work with youth in Panama City; (3) a yard sale in which proceeds were used to help support families with personal hygiene items, clothing and school supplies for children; and (4) an empty bowl project where youth had the opportunity to showcase and share their creativity by making and painting bowls from clay. The bowls will be displayed and auctioned off at several fundraising events planned later during the year.

• The Circuit continues to maintain a very successful Teen Court (Collaboration with Panama City Police, Panama City Beach Police, Bay County Sheriff’s Office, FL ABT, Lynn Haven Police and other smaller agencies). Since June 2006, approximately 1,831 cases have progressed through the Teen Court process.

Statewide Overview for 2010-11
Holmes County

- Holmes County Juvenile Justice Council participated in several prevention based activities throughout the 2010-11 FY. In July 2010 the council participated in the Annual Patriotic Program which is sponsored by local churches. In December 2010 council members collaborated with the local coalition, churches and business to sponsor the Annual Holiday Celebration in three different locations in the county.

Washington County

- Washington County Juvenile Justice Council, Washington County School Health Program, and Roulhac Middle School collaborated to host a Health Fair at Roulhac Middle School where 128 6th graders were allowed a presentation on laws that can be broken. Students were informed of behaviors which are violations of the laws and which have legal consequences. This was an education/prevention effort to target 10 and 11 year olds.

Circuit 15 (Palm Beach)

- Circuit 15 Board participated in the Gang Summit, October 2010 which was conducted under the auspices of the Palm Beach County Sheriff. The summit workgroups developed action plans for community involvement.

- Board members participated in JDAI Training, Summer 2010, of community members under the auspices of the Casey Foundation. Committees developed action plans to implement programs to reduce the number of youth in detention.

- Board members participated in the Child Welfare Summit, April 2011, department representatives and members of the Board participated in an integrated summit “Everybody’s a Teacher”. The purpose of the summit was to design action plans to improve the educational outcomes for youth in the child welfare system and crossover youth. Action plans have been developed and a large follow-up community meeting is planned for October 28, 2011.

Circuit 16 (Monroe)

- During Youth Success Week 2011, Circuit 16 hosted its Annual Open House and Youth and Partner Awards Ceremony. The guest speaker was Chief Judge Mark Jones who spoke on the importance of juvenile justice programs in the community. The event was attended by approximately 100 people. Circuit 16 had the support of 15 partners to display programs and eligibility criteria during the Open House and Youth and Partner Award Ceremony.

Circuit 17 (Broward)
Circuit 17 Juvenile Justice Board coordinated a meeting with the Broward County School District Guidance Counselors which addressed Disproportionate Minority Representation in the school system.

Harmony Development Center has served ninety seven disproportionate minority youth and their families. The continued partnership with the Juvenile Justice Board will ensure the success of reducing the disproportionate minority over representation in Broward County. Harmony Development Center attends juvenile justice circuit board meetings to discuss the issues of DMC in the county. The Juvenile Justice Board in support of Harmony has made efforts to assist with DMC referrals.

Circuit 17 Juvenile Justice Board Members served as panelist at Harmony’s Community and Juvenile justice stakeholders’ DMC Forum held on May 31st in partnership with Lauderdale Lakes Middle School. Over 200 participants attended the forum which was successful in reaching families in targeted areas identified by the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Broward’s Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) has been very active in regard to the detention portion of the juvenile justice spectrum. The collaborative has been focusing on Failure to Appear (FTA) issues, whereas the Juvenile Court Judges have agreed to withhold issuing pick-up orders on youth who do not appear. The Alternative to Secure Detention (ATSD) monitors locate the youth and get the youth to appear during the same calendar week. This effort has had significant impact across the four courtrooms. The success rate of this program is better than 70%. The JDAI collaborative recently approved the continuation of the ATSD Program until March 2012.

Child Net CEO and Circuit 17 Juvenile Justice Board Member attended the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform symposium at Georgetown University in Washington DC. This symposium was designed to address the repositioning of Juvenile Justice and Welfare services. At this symposium they highlighted studies that impact disproportionate minorities.

Law enforcement entities, such as Broward Sheriff’s Office and Fort Lauderdale Police Department; the Broward County School System, the NAACP and the Children’s Services Council are collaborating with the local juvenile justice community to define processes and access services to create a strong local network of civil citation programming.

Circuit 18 (Brevard and Seminole)

Circuit 19 (Indian River, Okeechobee, Martin, and St. Lucie)

Indian River County

Indian River JJC meeting are comprised of individuals from the public and private sector and attendance is at an all time high. Attendance has spiked due to a change in the
council’s meeting location. Meetings are now held at the Indian River County Courthouse. This change has made it more convenient for the State Attorney’s Office, the Public Defender’s Office, Court Personnel, and our Juvenile Judge to participate.

**Martin County**

- Martin County JJC collaborated with Project Northland to provide information and publicize Red Ribbon Week, Summer Smash and other family friendly events throughout the year.
- Martin JJC supported the Operation Medicine Cabinet in conjunction with the Martin County Sheriff’s Office, which coordinates efforts to encourage people to clean unwanted or expired medications and turn them in for safe disposal.

**Circuit 20 (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee)**

- In May of 2010 the Circuit 20 Juvenile Justice Board, began planning series of circuit wide trainings. The trainings scheduled for presentation are 1) Human Trafficking and Unaccompanied minors, Prescription Drug Abuse and Utilizing Workforce Developments and their partners to find jobs for kids within the system.
- On July 12th Circuit 20 Juvenile Justice Board in cooperation with Department of Children and Families partners, hosted a training entitled, “Identifying and understanding human trafficking.” Training participants learned about human trafficking from local leading experts on the issue.

**BOARDS AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT**

During 2010-11 FY, the boards and councils were involved in several committee meetings and activities as they worked on juvenile justice issues. The many functions of the boards and councils outlined in Section 985.664 Florida Statutes, call for the involvement of many individuals with varied backgrounds and expertise. Using a committee approach to meet these functions allows the boards and councils to multiply its resources and involve volunteers who may not wish to attend regular meetings of the board or council. The following section is only a sampling of some of their committees and will look at some of the specific committee efforts that were used to fulfill their mission of working on juvenile justice issues with the department. The information in this section was obtained from the boards and councils 2010-11 Annual Reports.

**Circuit 1 (Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton)**

- Circuit 1 Board Planning Committee meetings are schedule during the regular board meetings due to the Board’s size. The delinquency prevention plan is currently being addressed during these meetings.
• Santa Rosa County JJC Grants Committee is responsible for looking up and sending out grant alerts on a daily basis to council members.

• Walton County JJC Prevention Planning Committee is currently working on completing the Delinquency Prevention Plan. These meetings have included reviewing the previous plan, revising the draft plan, and gathering new data. Additional meetings are being planned to incorporate the new data into a revised plan and draft a new plan.

**Circuit 2 (Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, and Wakulla)**

• Franklin County JJC Faith Committee is active and local faith representative continues interest in developing collaborative projects with ongoing church youth activities.

**Circuit 5 (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion, and Sumter)**

• Marion Council Program areas/issues, such as the new Marion County Sheriff’s juvenile center, were discussed as part of the regular meeting. The Council created a staffing committee to determine available services for re-entry.

**Circuit 7 (Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns, and Volusia)**

• Putnam County JJC Prevention/Diversion/Intervention Committee- Created newly formed Re-Entry Team prior to the beginning of the local Council meeting. The Re-Entry Team works together to plan transitioning of children from residential facilities to their communities. Parents and children attend some of the meetings. Monthly updates are presented to council members. Three (3) students have been transitioned.

• St. Johns County JJC Planning Committee spent most of the year on accruing needs assessment data, evaluating data, and compiling 3-year Prevention Plan for SJC-JJC which was approved and submitted to Circuit.

• Volusia County JJC Faith Committee - Increased Faith Based partnerships by becoming closely involved with organizations that provide mentoring to DJJ youth both in local facilities as well as at risk youth within the community. The new faith based representative is actively involved with the Council as well as advocating within the community.

• Volusia County JJC vigorously accepted the role as the primary community advocate for Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC). Council members have been educated on data and helped to create the Vision and Mission of the Circuit 7 DMC Steering Committee and is moving forward to help develop the Strategic Plan. Council members provided current statistics for the local One Voice for Volusia Community Snapshot. The outcome measures from the Snapshot help to support the direction of the Council’s 3 Year Plan.
Circuit 8 (Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union)

- Circuit 8 Legislative Committee supported a letter to Secretary Walters following her appointment. Each County Council Chair signed letter, which provided a brief history of Circuit 8, values, congratulations, concerns and recommendations. The Board also participated in DJJ Legislative Updates and shares information with council in the Circuit.

- Levy County JJC Planning and Long-Term Goals committee has been established to energize the council. They will bring recommendations to the council at the September 2011 meeting.

- Levy County JJC established a Youth Expo Steering Committee for community event help in June 2011. This highly successful event provided youth and parents in Levy County with a Summer Guide of activities and events that are available for youth. Plans are being made to host the event again next year.

Circuit 10

- Circuit 10 Faith Based Committee has been busy and involved in several community events – helping with transportation for families to get to court appointments; Assisting families with food, clothing, housing, and counseling; helping families with clothing/uniforms for children who are returning to school from detention centers.

Circuit 11 (Dade)

- Circuit 11 Nominations Committee met three (3) times in FY 2010-11 to fill two vacancies on the Juvenile Justice Board. The Nominations Committee worked with the By-laws Committee to amend requirements of certain positions to make them more viable for key stakeholders to be part of the Circuit Juvenile Justice Board.

Circuit 13 (Hillsborough)

- Circuit 13 Board has added a Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Committee to assist with awareness and data distribution among community partners. The committee utilizes the expertise of a USF professor to examine and propose solutions to Circuit 13 DMC issues.

Circuit 14 (Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, and Washington)

- The Circuits 14 Board Public Information, Public Relations, Outreach Committee is involved in on-going efforts to update and re-distribute the “Know the Law” booklet (a Bay County juvenile court resource guide) to all schools within the Bay District School system.

Circuit 15 (Palm Beach)
• The Circuit 15 Board Faith Committee is responsible for developing a local faith and community network initiative to bridge the efforts as they relate to the C15 JJB and to provide non-traditional services to youth and their families.

• Circuit 15 Board Legislative Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending proposed legislation issues as it relates to 15 JJB. The Legislative Committee held a very successful legislative meeting at the Detention Center to discuss circuit issues and specific concerns especially the continuation of the JAC and youth records.

• Circuit 15 Board Public Awareness Committee is responsible for Public Relations, PSA, Media and Press releases as related to the initiatives and concerns of the C15 JJB. This committee publishes a circuit newsletter 4 times a year. This newsletter is posted on the circuit’s website which it assists in maintaining.

Circuit 17 (Broward)

• Circuit 17 Board and Planning Committee had a strategic planning retreat in February 2011. The focus of the retreat was to review and revise the strategic plan that was adopted in 2009. During the retreat, the participants examined the progress that has been made during the past two years toward the goals outlined in the strategic plan. Some new strategies to further attain the goals were developed and a plan of action was adopted.

• Circuit 17 Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) committee was created to address DMC issues in Broward County and includes several collaborative partners. It is the committee’s plan to expand the collaborative partners to include youth, parents/families, police chiefs, school board (Project Ridge, principals, school staff) media, legislators, faith-based community, parent groups, child welfare partners, WF1, school counselors and social workers and the business community. Circuit 17 DMC goal is that minority youth in Broward County will have equitable delinquency involvement and outcomes.

Circuit 19 (Indian River, Okeechobee, Martin, and St. Lucie)

• Indian River County JJC Planning Committee is one of the most active groups of the Council. The committee has met every other week; focus has been on school truancy issues and communication & coordination of service delivery among providers. There has been tremendous Council participation in the Planning Committee which has focused on the continuum of care for youth, particularly as it relates to truancy and issues related to children not being in school (i.e. suspensions, expulsions, etc). Status reviews are being increased more timely with the Juvenile Judge so that absences from school can be addressed.
• Martin JJC supports prevention, diversion and intervention effort of Tykes and Teens in addressing alcohol and drug issues. The council also works with the school system on strategies to address issues identified in the Youth Substance Abuse Survey.

Circuit 20 (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee)

• Charlotte County JJC Planning Committee has worked on an analysis of juvenile crime and trends presentations from Drug Free Charlotte County, review of integrated Juvenile Courts, exploration of Juvenile Drug Court and current initiative to conduct sequential intercept mapping of the county’s Juvenile Justice System.

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