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THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

Specialized Dockets *Newsletter*

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September 23, 2011

2011 OSDPN MEETINGS & RSVP

THE OHIO SPECIALIZED DOCKETS PRACTITIONER NETWORK

With over 140 specialized dockets in operation throughout Ohio, the Supreme Court of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and the Ohio Department of Mental Health have recognized the need for interaction among the professionals that staff these courts. In order to provide such a forum, the Ohio Specialized Docket Practitioner Network was created to provide peer support and technical assistance to these programs. The Network is comprised of several sub-networks that meet by discipline. These sub-network meetings allow specialized docket practitioners to discuss the challenges and successes they have faced in their specific role on the specialized docket court team. In addition, the sub-network meetings offer opportunities for specialized docket professionals to provide program updates, discuss program operations, and discover innovative and effective strategies employed by other specialized dockets. If you are a member of a court's specialized docket team and would like to participate in the Network or learn more, then please contact our office at (614) 387-9425.

2011 OSDPN Sub-Network Meeting Dates & RSVP

All meetings are 10:00am – 2:00pm and at the [Judicial Center](#) unless noted otherwise.

Judges	Nov. 16 – Worthington Doubletree Suites (5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)	*Send your RSVP to: Charlsia.Brown@sc.ohio.gov
Probation Officers	October 7	Send your RSVP to: Charlsia.Brown@sc.ohio.gov

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!

2011 OSDPN ANNUAL CONFERENCE: PREPARING FOR CERTIFICATION

Date: November 17, 2011

Location: Doubletree Hotel – Worthington

The 2011 Specialized Dockets Practitioner Network annual conference offers national speakers and several breakout sessions on a wide-range of topics relevant to specialized docket programs. This annual event attracts more than 350 attendees from throughout the state, providing participants access to open communication and promoting relationships among professionals across county lines.

To register, click [here](#).

2011 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIALIZED DOCKETS MEETING DATES

The 2011 *Advisory Committee on Specialized Dockets* meeting dates are scheduled as follows:

November 30, 2011

All meetings are from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the Ohio Judicial Center.

For directions to the Court, please visit our [website](#).

2011 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MENTAL ILLNESS AND THE COURTS MEETING DATES

The 2011 *Advisory Committee on Mental Illness and the Courts (ACMIC)* meetings are scheduled as follows:

September 26, 2011

All meetings are from **1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** in the Judicial Education Center at the Ohio Judicial Center.

For directions to the Court, please visit our [website](#).

SUPREME COURT ADOPTS SPECIALIZED DOCKETS STANDARDS

The Supreme Court of Ohio has adopted a new rule that allows local courts to receive Supreme Court certification of a specialized docket. The rule takes effect on Jan. 1, 2013. The rule allows a court operating or establishing a particular session of court to apply for certification of the session from the Supreme Court. The session must offer a therapeutically oriented judicial approach to providing court supervision and appropriate treatment to individuals placed in it. Upon receipt of Supreme Court certification, the session may be referred to as a “specialized docket.” Since the establishment of the Hamilton County Drug Court in 1995, Ohio has been recognized as a national leader in the implementation of specialized dockets. In 2001, the Supreme Court created the Specialized Dockets Section to assist and support local courts in developing specialized programs uniquely tailored to helping specific populations within the court system. Today, there are nearly 150 specialized dockets operating in Ohio including drug courts, mental health courts, re-entry courts, OVI courts, veterans courts, sex offender courts, felony non-support courts and domestic violence courts. The 12 standards included in the newly adopted Rule 36.02 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio are intended to create a minimum level of uniform practices while still allowing courts to tailor operations to meet their local needs. The standards spell out the procedure for certification. They require courts to engage in a planning process for their specialized docket programs, use a non-adversarial approach, hold regular treatment team meetings, and conduct regular status review hearings for individuals placed in the programs. The standards specifically exempt commercial dockets, housing dockets and environmental dockets from the requirements of the rule. [View the complete language of the rule.](#)

NEWS

DRUG TESTING ADAPTS TO BAN ON BATH SALTS

Authorities said many Miami Valley residents who abuse synthetic cannabinoids and “bath salts” do so because they believe they can get high and still pass drug tests mandated by their employers or arranged by families. But local medical companies are adapting to the synthetic drug craze by offering tests that can detect common chemicals used to manufacture the substances. MedWork Occupational Health Care in Dayton, which administers about 15,000 drug screens each year, has the capability to test for “bath salts” and Spice, aka synthetic marijuana, but the company is advising its clients to wait to change drug-testing policies. [More...](#)

STARK COUNTY LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO ADDRESS MENTAL-HEALTH NEEDS OF INMATES

One day this past winter, Paul Sarsany arrived for work and was told he “was going to jail.” And since January, the Stark County Jail is where Sarsany has been, implementing a new project linking inmates with post-release, mental-health treatment. Sarsany is an outpatient therapist with a social-service agency called Coleman Behavioral Health. Under contract with the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County, Sarsany’s employer is engaging in a jail-based program with the goal of reducing the inmate recidivism rate. [More...](#)

A JUDGE OF MATURITY — OR COMPETENCE

It used to scare me no end when I had young people living in my house, that they would do something that would propel them instantly from teenagers into “juveniles,” a world peopled with judges, prosecutors, attorneys and probation officers and chock full of documents in impenetrable English. It doesn’t take much to cross the line from being a regular teenager to “juvenile,” that ominous coverall term for delinquent, hoodlum, bonehead, ne-er do well — take your pick. [More...](#)

WEBINARS

NATIONAL TA CENTER WEBINAR SERIES

The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health conducts monthly webinars through our National TA Webinar Series. These webinars generally occur on the third Thursday of each month from 1:00 - 2:30 PM E.T.

Participation in the webinar series requires that you register using the online registration form below. There are no registration fees to listen to or participate in these webinars.

<http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/resources/2011calls.html>

UPCOMING WEBINAR - "ENGAGING YOUTH IN ORGANIZATIONS AND SYSTEMS: SMALL STEPS TO SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION "

Date: September 27th from 10AM - 11AM Pacific Time / 1PM – 2PM Eastern Time.

In every youth serving organization or system, there is an opportunity at all levels for youth and adults to partner for more effective positive outcomes for youth. Youth Engagement Solutions LLC and the National Resource Center for Youth Development partner in this webinar to provide experiences and strategies on how to engage and partner with youth at various levels of organizations, systems, and youth advisory boards.

Presenters:

- Lacy Kendrick Burk, Founder/Executive Director, Youth Engagement Solutions LLC
- Matt Hudson, Young Adult, Director of Operations, Youth Engagement Solutions LLC
- Thomas Chapmond, Consultant, National Resource Center for Youth Development; Former Commissioner for Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Clay Finck, Program Director, National Resource Center for Youth Development

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

CALL FOR PAPERS

The NADCP 18th Annual Training Conference, May 30 - June 2, 2012, in Nashville, TN will provide skills building training for experienced practitioners; be a showcase for best-practice models; a springboard for more responsive public policy; and a catalyst for local, national, and international collaborations.

Right now, we are asking you to take two concrete steps towards 2012. First, circle the dates May 30 - June 2 on your 2012 calendar, and start planning now to attend the NADCP 18th Annual Drug Court Training Conference in Nashville, TN. Second, submit a workshop proposal before August 31, 2011. We invite you to propose workshops on the innovative solutions and collaborative strategies you use to meet the needs of participants in Drug Courts and other Problem-Solving Courts. This year, as every year, the committees that make final workshop selections will prioritize diversity of all kinds.

Focus Areas

NADCP seeks proposals that present best practices in service delivery, collaboration, and justice programming that enhance outcomes for substance and/or co-occurring individuals under a court's jurisdiction. Proposals for workshops that present research findings and data analysis may be submitted either under the appropriate subject area or in the general Research and Data category. We invite proposals that address the following areas:

- Adult Drug Court Issues
- Advanced Treatment Issues – for all programs

- Alcohol
- Co-Occurring Disorders
- Courts on the Cutting Edge/Innovations in Problem Solving Courts
- Cultural Issues – for all programs
- DWI Court Issues
- Ensuring Child Safety and Working towards Reunification: Family Dependency Drug Courts
- Ethics
- Juvenile Drug Court Issues
- Law Enforcement Issues
- Learning from Native Traditions: Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts
- Legal Issues
- Mental Health Courts
- Reentry Courts
- Research
- Rural Courts
- Specific drugs and their impact
- State and Local Coordination of Drug Courts
- Supervision Issues
- Trauma (Treatment, Case management, Causes)
- Treatment Basics 101 – for all programs
- Veterans Treatment Courts

To submit your proposal, click [here](#).

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

OJACC Scholarships Still Available

A small number of conference scholarships are still available to prospective conference attendees. Scholarships will be competitively awarded based upon financial and professional developmental needs, geographical dispersion, organizational diversity and previous OJACC conference attendance. However, these scholarships are not available for state of Ohio employees. Individuals interested in competing for a scholarship should submit a single page letter detailing their need, along with their completed Conference Registration Form via regular mail to: OJACC, c/o Cheryl J. Taylor, 9640 Thomas Hill Road, Stoutsville, OH 43154 or e-mail completed forms to tctaylor@mac.com. by the end of the work day, Thursday, September 29, 2011. Scholarships are not transferrable.

Ohio CASA/GAL Association's 17th Annual Celebrate Kids Conference

From September 22- 24, 2011, foster youth advocates from around the state will convene at the Double Tree Inn Columbus-Worthington to increase the depth of their knowledge on roughly forty topics such as: effectiveness in interviewing and working with youth, understanding personality disorders, the road to permanency, research findings about child sexual abuse, educational supports for foster youth, and learning how the “new poverty” created by the recession effects youth and their families. In addition, Ohio CASA will also feature sessions on paternity, balancing a child’s wishes and their best interest and understanding the effect of a parent’s mental illness on the family. Justice Yvette McGee Brown will make remarks for the September 23rd Keynote Address. The Supreme Court is providing two scholarships per county for juvenile court judges, magistrates, court personnel or CASA Program staff to attend the conference. The scholarship covers registration costs for the conference (travel and lodging costs are not covered by the scholarship). In order to obtain this offer, simply indicate scholarship on the registration form prior to submission to Ohio CASA. The conference features a legal track which includes CLE credits. The conference brochure can be found at: http://web1.iescentral.com/sites/casa_ohio/files/mnu_page_61.pdf

Questions about registration can be addressed to Andi Attwood of Ohio CASA at 614.224.2272. Questions about scholarships can be addressed to Steve Hanson 614.387.9387.

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) Regional Training Conference *Working with High Conflict and Violent Families: A Race with No Winners*

From October 27-29, 2011, the AFCC is bringing their national programming to the Midwest at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis. An expanded training format and nationally known faculty will bring relevant topics alive such as Integrating Research into Practice for Violent and High Conflict Families, Ethical Challenges for 21st Century Family Lawyers, Assessing Risk of Violence on Family Law Professionals, Domestic Abuse, Co-Parenting and Parenting Time, parenting coordination, and mediation. Up to 19 hours of continuing education will be available for lawyers, judges, and magistrates. For more information about the conference go to www.afccnet.org/conferences.

The Supreme Court is providing a total of ten scholarships for judges and magistrates to attend the conference. The scholarship covers registration costs for the conference (travel and lodging costs are not covered by the scholarship). To apply for a scholarship, send an email request to christy.tull@sc.ohio.gov by September 26th. Questions about scholarships can be addressed to Christy Tull at 614.387.9445.

SUPPORTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

The National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund (NNEDVF) teams up with the Allstate Foundation to support NNEDVF grants to aid domestic violence survivors. The program supports 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations whose core mission is to serve or represent victims of domestic violence and their children. The effort also provides small grants to survivors of domestic violence

(women and their families) to help them achieve their educational and job related goals. Any survivor of domestic violence is eligible to apply; however, the application must be completed by a local domestic violence program or coalition to be accepted. Applications will be assessed based on the need. There are a variety of grants available such as one that works through state coalitions to train advocates and encourage economic independence from abusers. Information:

<http://www.allstate.com/foundation/domestic-violence-grants.aspx> or 202/543-5566.

EDUCATION, COMMUNITY NEEDS AND DIVERSITY/FAIRNESS FOCUS

Deadline: Ongoing

The Darden Restaurant Foundation (DRF), affiliated with the company that owns Olive Garden and Red Lobster restaurants, offers an array of community-based grants for the improvement of K-12 education. Darden makes grants in communities where it has facilities. Because they have operations across the country, chances are good there will be a facility in your back yard. Projects should meet community needs as well as emphasize diversity and fairness. Be aware that foundation board meetings are held quarterly in August, November, February and May. If you have a time sensitive project, it's best to check with DRF to see how much lead time they need for a grant application. Information: Bob McAdam, Senior Vice President, Community Affairs, 407/245-5366;

http://www.darden.com/com_overview_mission.asp

GENERAL YOUTH FUNDING

Deadline: Rolling

Summary: Most of the work the Annie E. Casey Foundation supports takes the form of multi-year, multi-site, foundation-based projects. However, the foundation, which focuses on helping vulnerable and at-risk children, youth and their families, does not discourage interested organizations from submitting letter of inquiry when looking for grants. Founded in 1948, the primary mission of the Foundation is to foster public policies, human-service reforms, and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of vulnerable children and families. It is the 15th largest private foundation in the United States, with assets of more than \$3 billion, and ranks 20th in the nation for charitable giving.

Website: www.aecf.org

BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP HAS SEVERAL FOUNDATIONS AND GIVING PROGRAMS TO FUND CHILDREN'S HEALTH & WELLNESS; APPLICATION DEADLINE VARIES

Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. awards grants to provide direct support for children in the areas of health and wellness through several foundations, including the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation and the Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation.

<http://www.buildabear.com/shopping/contents/content.jsp?catId=400002&id=700016>

HUMAN AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Deadline: Ongoing

Website: [www.macfound.org/site/c.lkLXJ8MQKrH/b.938141/k.FEFC/Domestic Grantmaking](http://www.macfound.org/site/c.lkLXJ8MQKrH/b.938141/k.FEFC/Domestic_Grantmaking)

The Chicago-based John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Program on Human and Community Development will focus its grant-making strategies on community change and juvenile justice. The Juvenile Justice effort maintains a national scope and promotes an effective juvenile justice system that is linked to relevant agencies, is acknowledged to play a critical role in the community and is held accountable for public safety as well as the rehabilitation of young offenders. Grant award funding levels vary. Eligible applicants for the Juvenile Justice program include a variety of organizations in the United States.

PUBLIC WELFARE FOUNDATION GRANTS

Deadline: Open and rolling

Website: www.publicwelfare.org

The Public Welfare Foundation (PWF) offers \$1.5 million in grants for its Criminal Justice Program competition. Funds promote a fair and humane criminal justice system and violence prevention that includes alternatives to incarceration, effective legal representation and the reintegration of

offenders as productive citizens. Proposals are welcomed from a wide range of organizations and can include both governmental and independent advocacy groups.

MCCORMICK TRIBUNE FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES PROGRAM GRANTS

Deadline: Ongoing

Website: www.mccormicktribune.org/programs.aspx

The McCormick Tribune Foundation Communities Program supports efforts to stimulate local philanthropy and improve community life through collaborative partnerships in communities nationwide. The foundation helps to support projects that address basic human needs, children and youth at risk, and community strengthening efforts.

SAMHSA CONFERENCE GRANTS

Website: http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants/conference/PA_06_001_Conference.aspx

Description: The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) accepts applications twice a year for Knowledge Dissemination Conference Grants to support sharing information on best practices and the integration of that knowledge into real world practice.

OFFICE DEPOT TAKING CARE OF KIDS AND SCHOOLS GRANTS

Website: www.community.officedepot.com/local.asp.

Description: Office Depot supports local nonprofit organizations that directly affect the health, education and welfare of children. Office Depot is accepting applications for its Taking Care of Kids & Schools Grants Program. Funds should be used to directly provide services.

WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH IN PREGNANCY AND THE POSTPARTUM PERIOD

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-081.html>

Description: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits research project grant applications on the topic of women's mental health in relation to pregnancy and the postpartum period.

REDUCTION AND PREVENTION OF SUICIDALITY

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-079.html>

Description: The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to invite grant applications for research that will reduce the burden of suicidality (deaths, attempts, and ideation).

EFFECTIVENESS, PRACTICE, AND IMPLEMENTATION IN THE CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES' COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES SERVICE SITES.

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-091.html>

Description: The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), National Institutes of Health (NIH), invites research grant applications on services delivered to children, adolescents, and their families through the Center for Mental Health Services' (CMHS) Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program initiative (hereafter referred to as the "Children's Services Program").

SUPPORTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

Deadline: Varies by Program

The National Network to End Domestic Violence Fund (NNEDVF) teams up with the Allstate Foundation to support NNEDVF grants to aid domestic violence survivors. The program supports 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations whose core mission is to serve or represent victims of domestic violence and their children. The effort also provides small grants to survivors of domestic violence (women and their families) to help them achieve their educational and job related goals. Any survivor of domestic violence is eligible to apply; however, the application must be completed by a local domestic violence program or coalition to be accepted. Applications will be assessed based on the need. There are a variety of grants available such as one that works through state coalitions to

train advocates and encourage economic independence from abusers. Information:
<http://www.allstate.com/foundation/domestic-violence-grants.aspx> or 202/543-5566.

OHIO TRAININGS

FREE GRANT WRITING SEMINARS

OCJS is hosting several free Grant Writing Seminars. The trainings provide an overview of identifying grant sources, analyzing program objectives, creating a budget, seeking letters of support, and proposal writing. Federal and state grants available to criminal justice professionals will be discussed. Attendees will also receive the OCJS publication, *Grant Writing: Identifying and Applying for Funding in a Competitive Market*.

Trainings will take place on the following date:

October 12: Designing and Effective Evaluation Strategy

December 14: Understanding Cost Benefit Analysis

All trainings will be held from 9:00 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

CARE TRAINING SESSIONS

The CARE training session(s) will help you increase your knowledge and understanding about the impact of cultural practices and beliefs on the patient/client - provider relationship, and provide opportunities for developing strategies to strengthen your cross-cultural skills. The training is targeted to behavioral/health care and human services professionals, as well as others who are interested in learning more about how to better serve the needs of our community's diverse populations. The cost of the CARE training Level I (3 hour session) is \$35 for MACC members and \$45 for non-members and CARE Level II (8 hours) is \$120 and \$150 accordingly. CEU's are available for RNs/LPNs and LSWs/LISWs; application has been made for CEU's for Counseling and Ohio Chemical Dependency professionals. For more information about CARE trainings [click here](#).

HI RISK YOUTH & TECHNOLOGY: THE WHO, THE WHAT, THE WHY FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

Date: September 30, 2011

Location: Columbus, Ohio (Ohio Department of Transportation)

Register online: www.oacca.org

OHIO SUMMIT ON DISCHARGE PLANNING AND HOMELESSNESS IN OHIO

Date: October 6, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Location: OSU 4-H Building - 2201 Fred Taylor Dr. - Columbus, Ohio 43201

COHHIO is pleased to sponsor The Ohio Summit on Discharge Planning and Homelessness. This event brings together leaders and experts from homeless service providers, correctional institutions, hospitals, state departments, nursing homes, foster care, and the Veterans Administration to discuss policies of discharging institutions and ways to help end homelessness. Please contact Emily Van Buren for questions or information and to obtain a registration form: emilyvanburen@cohhio.org Registration fee is \$45 for attendees, lunch is included. Please mail cash, checks or money orders (payable to COHHIO) to COHHIO - 175 S. Third St. - Suite 250 - Columbus, Ohio 43215 General directions, parking information, and payment receipts will be emailed upon receipt of registration form and payment.

INSIGHT FOR ADVOCATES: THE SCOOP ON NEW ALTERNATIVES IN CPS

Date: October 28, 2011

Location: Quest Conference Center in Columbus, Ohio

This one day conference is for directors and staff who are expected to lead collaboration and coordination efforts with Child Protective Service agencies.

Conference presenters include: David Mandel, David Mandel and Associates, Grace Mattern, Chair-elect, National Network to End Domestic Violence and former Co-Chair of the National Greenbook Policy Advisory Council and Ohio Domestic Violence Network Staff Members. *This event is supported in part through funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice. Points of view expressed in this event are those of the organizers and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. Additional Funding provided by Care Source Foundation, HealthPath Foundation of Ohio, and the Ohio Dept. of Jobs & Family Services.* Conference registration is located at www.odvn.org.

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Date: November 17, 2011

Location: Doubletree Hotel – Worthington

The 2011 Specialized Dockets Practitioner Network annual conference offers national speakers and several breakout sessions on a wide-range of topics relevant to specialized docket programs. This annual event attracts more than 350 attendees from throughout the state, providing participants access to open communication and promoting relationships among professionals across county lines.

To register, click [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE - 2011 OHIO HOUSING CONFERENCE

Date: November 29-December 1, 2011

ONLINE COURSES TRAIN JUVENILE JUSTICE MANAGERS

The [National Juvenile Court Services Association](#) has designed an online training curriculum to train juvenile justice managers. Sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Professional Juvenile Justice Manager (PJMM) certificate program includes [a series of online courses](#). Students will spend two weeks on each course, working on basic lecture material, specialized readings, and self-assessment questions.

The program is designed to train staff and to provide certification for supervisors currently in the field. Those who successfully complete the program will receive certification from the American Probation and Parole Association. Resources: To access a list of PJMM courses and register online, visit www.njcsacertification.org/course/category.php?id=29.

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR JUVENILE SERVICES TO HIGHLIGHT SYSTEM REFORM

Date: October 16–19, 2011

Location: Indianapolis, IN

The National Partnership for Juvenile Services will host a national symposium on "[Representing America's Youth: System Reformation and Professional Renewal](#)." Focus groups and policy discussions will highlight topics such as juvenile corrections and detention, educating youth in confinement, community-based care, residential care, mental health care issues in juvenile justice, and more.

Registration is available [online](#).

RESEARCH & RESOURCES

SHOW ME THE MONEY: CHILD WELFARE COST SAVINGS OF A FAMILY DRUG COURT

Family drug courts are programs that serve the complex needs of families involved with the child welfare system due to parental substance abuse. This article summarizes the results of outcomes and selected costs of a system-wide reform located in Baltimore, Maryland. Results from this study found that parents served by the program entered treatment faster, stayed in treatment longer, and completed treatment more often than non-served parents. Children in program families spent less time in foster care and were more likely to be reunified with their biological parents. These outcomes resulted in cost savings, including reduced foster care expenditures. [More...](#)

JUMP IN HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL OVERDOSES AMONG YOUNG ADULTS

Government researchers report a dramatic jump in the number of hospitalizations for overdoses caused by drugs and alcohol among 18- to 24-year olds.

The researchers, from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, found that between 1999 and 2008, hospitalizations among this age group rose by 25 percent for alcohol overdoses, 56 percent for drug overdoses and 76 percent for overdoses caused by a combination of drugs and alcohol.

One out of three hospitalizations for overdoses in young adults involved excessive alcohol consumption in 2008. Hospitalization rates for alcohol overdoses among young adults reached 29,000 cases in 2008. Combined drug and alcohol overdoses caused 29,000 hospitalizations, and drug overdoses caused 114,000.

Opioid overdoses are also a problem, the study found. The researchers saw a 122 percent jump in the rate of poisonings from prescription opioids and related narcotics among young adults. “The combination of alcohol with narcotic pain medications is particularly dangerous, because they both suppress activity in brain areas that regulate breathing and other vital functions,” researcher Aaron M. White, PhD, said in a [news release](#). The study is published in the [Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs](#).

JOB OPENINGS

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Judicial & Courts Services Division ■ Specialized Dockets Section