



# On Balance

A publication of Dane County's Department of Human Services  
and the Dane County Juvenile Court Program

June 2011  
Volume V, Number 2

## Juvenile Corrections Update: Transition to Lincoln Hills School Almost Complete

By Rhonda Voigt

Most of you have probably heard that Ethan Allen School and Southern Oaks Girls School are closing and these two institutions will be consolidated with Lincoln Hills School (LHS). The girls' portion at LHS will be named Copper Lake School (CLS). Where are Lincoln Hills School and the future Copper Lake School? They are north of Wausau, north of Merrill, near Irma, WI, approximately 170 miles from Madison (Hwy 51, north). Driving time is approximately 2 hours, 47 minutes.

What does all this mean for Dane County?

- Our last EAS van trip was on May 17th. There are no plans for a DCDHS van trip to LHS/CLS.

- Families will be able to take the bus that is based out of Milwaukee when there is room. The current schedule is monthly trips. Beginning July 1st, there will be four trips per month with two trips coming through Madison. Families will be able to call LHS the morning of the trip to see if there is space available for Madison visitors. LHS will send parents information packets with this information upon each youth's transfer.
- Families will be able to set up visits and other meetings through videoconference from JRC and N.I.P. They will need to work with the LHS/CLS social workers to make arrangements.
- EAS will transfer their last youth to LHS prior to the end of June.
- The Cadet Achievement Program and the Short-Term Re-Entry Program, both direct commitment, short-term programs, have been

combined to offer a hybrid program called PRIDE.

- The AODA Treatment (dependence) program will be offered at LHS. The AODA Education program will not be offered.
- Type 2 sanctions for all boys has been moved.
- Type 2 facilities may be able to work with the LHS trip units on transportation for Type 2 sanctions youth.
- Girls will be transferred to CLS on June 27th.
- The Short-Term Re-Entry Program (for girls) is expected to continue at CLS.
- Type 2 sanctions for girls will go to CLS beginning approximately June 27th.

DJC has several committees working diligently on all aspects of this transition. New information will be relayed as it is known. Stay tuned for updates.

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### SAVE THE DATE

Managing the Revolving Door of Out Of Home Placements (*see p. 15*)

September 23, 2011 - 8 am-12:15 pm

American Family Training Center

For more info, call 250-6634 or visit: [www.community-partnerships.org](http://www.community-partnerships.org)

On the web @ [www.co.dane.wi.us/juvenilecourt](http://www.co.dane.wi.us/juvenilecourt)  
[www.co.dane.wi.us/humanservices](http://www.co.dane.wi.us/humanservices)

## NIP STARS Program Plans Activities for Boys

*By Veronica Hereford*

Every summer the DCDHS Neighborhood Intervention Program (NIP) provides the STARS program to families in Dane County. This program serves boys who are currently in 5th-9th grades. The program provides interactive learning opportunities, creative expression venues, social skills building, cultural experiences and basic skills development.

We would like to invite interested adults to join us in a few activities that we have planned for our young people. This will give you the opportunity to positively interact with some young people who will definitely benefit from the interaction.

**Thursday, June 23 1-3:30** Minute to Win It at NIP- Referee an event, participate, or just provide encouragement to the boys as they attempt to win prizes.

**Tuesday, June 28 10:30-1:00** Wisconsin Veterans Museum Scavenger Hunt- Help young people who may have some struggles with reading participate in a scavenger hunt and fact finding mission; also help to provide appropriate supervision for the boys.

**Tuesday, July 26 10:30-1:00** Vilas Zoo and Beach Scavenger Hunt- Help young people who may have some struggles with reading participate in a scavenger hunt and fact finding mission; also help to provide appropriate supervision for the boys.

Everyone is invited to come out and help us celebrate the young people, their accomplishments and the end of summer on August 24th. For more information, contact Veronica Hereford, Dane County Human Services Neighborhood Intervention Program, 608-288-2415 or [butler@countyofdane.com](mailto:butler@countyofdane.com).

**On Balance** is a publication of Dane County Department of Human Services and Juvenile Court Program.

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## Juvenile Corrections Aftercare DJC Agents Provide Intensive Services to Youth

By Rhonda Voigt



*Kate Elvidge,  
DJC Field Supervisor*

Dane County Human Services purchases juvenile corrections aftercare services from the WI Dept of Corrections, Division of Juvenile Corrections (DOC-DJC). Probation & Parole Agents are assigned to youth sent to secure institutions very early in the reception process. The Agent attempts to meet the parent(s)/guardian prior to the initial Office of Juvenile Offender Review (OJOR) planning conference. The Agent prepares a Family & Home Assessment for the initial OJOR, making recommendations about release planning for the youth. Release options include parental home, relative home, foster home, group home and residential care centers. DJC offers two levels of supervision: the Youth Corrective Sanctions Program (YCSP) and regular Aftercare.

The level of aftercare most often used with Dane County youth is YCSP, which is considered Type 2 status. YCSP uses a four-level system that begins with electronic monitoring and daily face-to-face

contacts. In addition to contacts by the Agents, community coaches are available to see youth and their families, often during non-traditional work hours. Contacts can be scheduled or random spot-checks. Checks can be at home, school or work sites. Youth who do well on YCSP may earn additional freedoms, including more recreational time and fewer staff contacts. Near the end of the successful YCSP period, the electronic monitor may be removed. At minimum, Agents see their youth on a weekly face-to-face basis.

A YCSP teen who violates rules of supervision may be sanctioned at a secure facility for 3-21 days. Every sanction is individualized depending on the needs of the youth and the family. Sanctioned youth are often given writing assignments that help the Agent determine case planning direction. A YCSP youth may be permanently returned to a secure setting with supervisor and regional chief approval rather than completing the entire parole revocation process.

YCSP allows for a variety of purchased service options including mentoring, individual counseling, in-home family counseling, sex offender treatment, anger management counseling and employment skills training. Referrals to the DJC Independent Living Coordinator, Employment Coordinator and Sex Offender Grant Coordinator may be initiated as appropriate.

Regular Aftercare is used most often when a youth is placed in a foster or group home. YCSP may be used with a foster or group home placement on a limited basis, for up to 90 days, with special approval of the DCDHS Delin-

quency Services Manager. A youth may be moved to Aftercare status after successful completion of YCSP. Weekly face-to-face contacts are required for youth on Regular Aftercare. The parole revocation process is required to return a youth to the secure facility for Regular Aftercare youth.

When youth have rules violations, numerous consequences may be considered: re-directions, verbal warnings, counseling, writing assignments, community service, treatment programming, house arrest, change of placement, etc. Agents and supervisors consider each youth individually when assigning consequences, accounting for variables such as school and employment schedules as indicated. Youth may be returned to the secure setting "pending investigation" when more information is needed to determine the appropriate action. Upon completion of an investigation, an immediate decision must be made whether to release the youth back to the community or hold them further in the secure setting. Youth may be permanently returned (YCSP) or revoked (Aftercare) for repeated violations of supervision rules despite re-direction attempts, blatant disregard for the rules, being unaccountable for periods of time, AWOLs, severe AOD use or new illegal behavior.

The DJC Field Supervisor covering the Dane County area is Kate Elvidge. She has been with DJC since 2003, promoting to the Field Supervisor position in 2006. Prior to DJC, Kate worked in a group home and RCC for teen boys and girls, Clark County Department of Human Services as a supervisor for the Prevention/Aftercare unit, and Mara-

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## Another Great Year for By Youth For Youth

*By Hugh Wing, Dane County Youth Board Facilitator/BYFY staff*



*BYFY Committee Members*

By Youth For Youth (BYFY) youth members and future community leaders presented their funding decisions at the **18<sup>th</sup> Annual BYFY Award Ceremony** on May 9 at the United Way of Dane County. After six months of hard work, By Youth For Youth announced which projects were selected for these important community development awards.

The By Youth For Youth Committee - a collaborative project of Dane County Youth Commission, United Way, and the City of Madison Community Development Division - awarded 15 student groups with up to \$3,000 each for projects that promote and support positive relationships between youth while serving our community. All of the proposals were developed and written by youth. This year's projects were focused on three areas of the community's Agenda for Change: Education, Health and Safety.

The projects funded will make a difference to more than 1,600 youth and families by increasing academic achievement, enhancing social and cultural competency, and increasing knowledge of health issues.

By Youth For Youth is a volunteer youth committee that makes investment decisions for youth-led programming in Dane County. This year's committee was made up of 24 Dane County high school students. BYFY provides youth the opportunity to identify needs and issues that are important to them and direct funding to those issues.

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## Making a Difference, One Kid at a Time Officer Gregory Rossetti

*By David Thorson*



*Officer Greg Rossetti*

Greg Rossetti has been the Education Resource Officer (ERO) at LaFollette High School since 2008. In the ensuing three years he has cemented his reputation as a police officer who truly cares about kids and families, who is adept at conflict resolution, and is committed to utilizing arrest as a last resort rather than a first response. As a result, he has developed a unique level of respect both in the community and in the schools.

Officer Rossetti came to Madison from Ohio in 1996, after having completed his Masters Degree at Ohio State (and no, despite this, he is thankfully not a Buckeye fan!!). He was a patrol officer initially and then became the Neighborhood Officer for the Darbo/Worthington area in 2003. It was there that he fully recognized the value of integrating policing into a team concept and began fostering a close relationship with Joining Forces For Families (JFF) and other community resources. At one point, Greg was recognized as a Friend of JFF for his work in the Darbo/Worthington neighborhood. The award description said in part, "Officer Rossetti represents the best that community policing has to offer. He goes the extra 10 miles for the kids he watches over. A tireless advocate who provides support to kids and families from the Darbo/Worthington neighborhood, he has developed block parties, fundraisers, and celebrations to benefit residents. Without Greg's efforts the Darbo Worthington Block Party would not have occurred this year. In conjunction with a school colleague, he has also provided conflict resolution services to families.

It is obvious from the moment you meet Greg that he likes kids and believes in their capacity to make positive changes, especially those kids who make poor choices and find themselves violating the law. With an enrollment of around 1700 students, there are probably fewer than 50 kids at LaFollette who can be problematic. Greg believes that if these youth can be engaged so they buy into what schools have to offer, then that makes everyone safer. He sees that all young people need and value relationships and can turn themselves around, especially if they feel they have an advocate and someone to talk to in the school. As the ERO at LaFollette, Officer Rossetti also realizes there is no real distinction between community issues and school issues. What goes on in the community inevitably comes into the schools. In partnership with school officials, he has worked to monitor and consequence kids who try to bring their gang activities into the school. They continue a visible and ongoing effort to maintain the school as a neutral place where everyone can be safe to learn.

Some of the programs that Officer Rossetti has either helped create or supported include Circle Conferencing, Youth Court, Time Bank, Right Track Groups through NIP, and ADDSII programming. When possible, he will give youth Restorative Justice Tickets rather than municipal citations or formal arrest. In fact, municipal tickets at LaFollette dropped from around 138 two years ago to less than 40 last school year. Officer Rossetti's diversion efforts have also positively impacted the disproportionate number of minority youth who find themselves in juvenile court.

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## Aftercare

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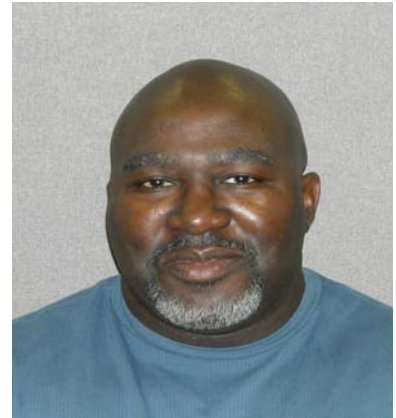
thon County as the Justice Systems Coordinator implementing Alternative Incarceration Programs. She has BS Degree in Human Development and Family Studies/ Family Intervention.

The Agents covering our area are Lonnie Morgan and Brandon Saunders. Lonnie has been an Agent since 2001. Prior to becoming an Agent, Lonnie was a Sergeant at Oakhill Correctional Institution. Lonnie studied education in college. Brandon has been with DJC working as an LTE Agent since June 2010. A licensed attorney in IL, he will be taking the bar exam in WI. Brandon's law interest is in child advocacy. He has past experience working at the electronic monitoring center.

Effective June 6, 2011, the Division of Juvenile Corrections is fully staffed, adding two more agents: Merebeth Rye and Nicole Laudholff.

Merebeth was a Reception and Treatment Social Worker at the Southern Oaks Girls School since June 2010. She was previously an Initial Assessment Social Worker with the Rock County Human Services' Child Protective Services from 2005-2010. Merebeth graduated from the UW-Whitewater with a BA degree in Sociology and attended Upper Iowa University where she obtained her Social Work certification.

Nicole was a Youth Counselor - Advanced at the Southern Oaks Girls School from November 2006 to present. Prior to this she was a Counselor at the Bremen Youth Services in Oak Forrest, Illinois, and a Youth Counselor at SOGS from 2002 to 2004. Nicole graduated from Silver Lake College in Manitowoc with a BA degree in Psychology and obtained her MA degree in Clinical Psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.



*Lonnie Morgan,*

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## BYFY

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*Matthew Bange presents the Garden of Great Planters Award to Child Development Inc.*

Four sponsors donated the funding for BYFY projects: Dane County Youth Commission: Oscar Mayer/Kraft Foods, United Way of Dane County, and the City of Madison Community Development Division.

As a member of staff working with BYFY for the first time, the experience has given me a renewed confidence that when youth from our community are asked to contribute, they excel and make well-informed decisions based upon good judgment and forethought. This should give us all some hope in a time when there is much debate and many are concerned about Dane County and our state's future.



## Agency Spotlight

### Centro Hispano Building Services for Latino Youth

*By Sheri Gatts*

The colorful murals are the first thing that jumps out at you when you walk into Centro Hispano, a non-profit agency at 810 West Badger Road in Madison. The reception area feels warm and inviting and the people behind the front desk speak Spanish, as well as English. A total of 17 employees work there and all of them speak Spanish as well as English.

Kent Craig has been the Director Ejecutivo (Executive Director) of the agency since January 2011, after serving as the Interim Director beginning in March 2010. He was also the Deputy Director twice, and he joined the agency in 2005 as a Community Support Specialist.



Centro Hispano receives funding from United Way, City of Madison, Madison and Verona School Districts, Dane County, and from various fundraisers. They would like to become more competitive and attract some additional funding from foundations.



*Kent Craig, Director*

Community Support Specialists are available to help adults with housing, employment, resume writing, translations, and other general issues. New services for adults will include helping them navigate the court system, going to court with them, and advocating for jail diversions. The agency serves about 200 adults per year.

According to Director Craig, Centro Hispano currently has two primary goals:

1. Placing a stronger emphasis on youth programming at the agency.
2. Making sure that the 18,000 square feet of building space is being used to full capacity.

#### **Youth Programming**

Centro Hispano has historically been thought of as a place for adults to go for assistance, which is certainly true. However, 80% of grant-funded programs are for youth. There is a growing need for services for Latino youth in Dane County. They serve over 1,000 youth per year, with about 800 of those being middle school students from Toki, Sennett, Sherman, Jefferson, and Cherokee. The agency provides academic support services for youth, and is beginning to work more with court referred youth. "We work hard toward being the very best at everything we do," Kent says.

Youth who have gone through some of the programming at Centro Hispano must have found it worthwhile. "They keep coming back to hang out after a 10 week group series ends, so we want to use this opportunity to develop

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## Centro Hispano

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additional programming for them,” Kent explains. There are plans for a summer youth initiative, a program called Play and Learn, and a music maker program.

Other youth programming includes the following:

◆ During the last spring break, Centro Hispano offered a Latino Youth Summit, which was attended by 80 middle school students. The youth spent two days at UW-Madison and one day at Centro Hispano. Workshops on a variety of topics were offered, including arts, paying for college, and being a good student.

- ◆ Institutes for Discovery met at Union South, with support from University students from the School of Education.
- ◆ The 2011 fall curriculum will be peer based and focused on gang prevention. This initiative will train high school students to work with middle school students.

### Using the Building Space

Centro Hispano has been in their current building for five years. They share the space with other agencies, including:

- ◆ The Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ START (Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Training) Program
- ◆ Wisconsin Medical Project which uses warehouse space to store supplies headed for Cuba and Nicaragua
- ◆ MATC English as a Second Language Outreach Site



There is enough space for one more agency, and Centro Hispano is looking for something that will fit well into their mission.



Kent Craig has an undergraduate degree in Spanish and a Masters Degree in Educational Percussion. His focus changed from music to giving back to the community and he landed at Centro Hispano in 2005. In his spare time he enjoys performing on a variety of percussion instruments with several local bands. His wife, Nicole Craig, works at Community Action Coalition as the Coordinator of the City Gardens Program. They have a Labrador Retriever named Percy, which they adopted from the Fluffy Dog Rescue in Milwaukee. They enjoy being involved in activities in and around Madison.



# On Balance

## Juvenile Court Awards

*By John Bauman*

The Dane County Circuit Court Judges in the Juvenile Division sponsored the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Juvenile Court Awards on April 14 at the Goodman Community Center. Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson was the featured speaker and Presiding Juvenile Division Judge David Flanagan led the event. The ceremony was a celebration and recognition of youth and the commitment others have made to the lives of families and youth in Dane County. Recipients of this year's recognition awards were:

### Outstanding Service Awards



Diane Prellwitz - Diane has been a supervisor for the Dane County Dept. of Human Services since 1997, supervising the Neighborhood Intervention Program and since 1999, an ongoing delinquency unit. Her prior positions were at the Mental Health Center and Division of Vocational Rehab. Diane's unit staff, co-workers and supervisor independently nominated her and all spoke of her professionalism, dedication, work ethic, knowledge and commitment as to why she is very deserving of recognition.



Randy (RJ) Morgan - RJ has been a Mental Health Tech at the Steps to Success day treatment program at Family Service for over 10 years. The clients he serves have behavioral and mental health challenges and RJ has provided behavioral therapy for hundreds of Dane County youth through the program. His co-workers describe him as someone who has an extraordinary commitment to youth and an immeasurable amount of patience, humor and humility.



Prairie View Elementary - The PVE school staff are very deserving of recognition for their commitment to all of the students and parents they work with, but specifically due to their outstanding work with a particular family. The staff has helped to stabilize the family by providing basic resources and support and the children's attendance and performance in school have significantly improved. They have gone above and beyond their jobs and have had a very positive impact on this family and the community.



### The George Northrup Award

Elizabeth Horikawa - Beth has been a volunteer in the Dane County Detention Home for 7 years. She helps Detention residents learn about artwork, music, poetry, creativity and other fine arts. Beth battled cancer a few years ago and has had recent back problems, but despite these issues, she continues to volunteer and is as dynamic, energetic and resourceful as she has ever been. The Detention residents and program are fortunate to have Beth as a volunteer.

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## JC Awards

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### The Peter Rubin Award

Jay Kiefer - Jay is the Program Director at Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin. He oversees multiple programs at the agency and has more than 25 years of experience working with delinquent youth in the juvenile system. Jay is active in the community and “goes above and beyond” by coaching, serving on committees and many other activities that benefit youth.



### The Ervin Bruner Award

Stephen Blue - Stephen is the Delinquency Services Manager for the Dane County Dept. of Human Services. He has over 33 years of experience working with at risk youth in the Dane County juvenile justice system and has been a leader in delinquency services and program development. Stephen’s lifetime commitment to working with at risk youth is unparalleled and he is very deserving of this award.



### Outstanding Achievement Award

Kristofor Cooks - Kristofor is a young man who has had some difficult times in his life. He became involved in the Youth-Business Mentoring Program with Common Wealth Development and began working at Staples. He excelled at Staples to the point where he represented the company at a local job fair and was twice named Associate of the Month. He has since graduated from LaFollette and continues to thrive as a young adult.



Mia Rothwell - Mia is a 13 year old who has taken full advantage of the services and supports available to her. She has contributed to the community in many ways and has impressed many adults with her maturity and intelligence. Mia is a young lady with a bright future ahead of her.



*Carrie Pomije, Hong Pham, Rhonda Voigt, Aimee DeHaven*



*Andre Johnson, Debbie Vieaux, Diane Prellwitz, Stephen Blue, Dave Thorson*



*Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson*

## Joining Forces for Families to Team with Delinquency Services on DMC Pilot

By Ron Chance, DCDHS Program Manager

With the launch of the Department's new court diversion program this fall, JFF Community Social Workers Ryan Estrella and Mike Bruce will begin a pilot project with Court Diversion Workers to prevent further juvenile justice system contacts for youth residing in the Allied Drive and Southwest Madison neighborhoods. Long term outcome goals will be two-fold: 1) no further violations by youth on Deferred Prosecution Agreements (DPA's) and for one year after case management intervention; and 2) regular school attendance by youth for one year after case management intervention, if applicable.

JFF is a human services collaboration that was initiated in Dane County 17 years ago. Thirteen JFF Community Social Workers now staff 25 teams comprised of professionals from schools, public health, police, and a variety of human services agencies. These JFF team members share information on family and community issues, coordinate services to families, and develop projects to assist communities and improve services. In 2010 JFF's 13 Community Social Workers fielded over 42,000 service requests across Dane County and stabilized over 1720 vulnerable families in household settings through resource linkage and case management strategies. Thousands of others were served by our Purchase of Service partner staff located at JFF sites.

JFF provides a platform so that human services can be decentralized and easily accessed by people in

need. Its collaborative organizational network is comprised of over 170 organizations including 77 faith-based institutions. Currently over 60 human services programs are delivered from 15 JFF site locations across Dane County. Typical programs offered (which can vary by site) include nutrition education, housing case management and assistance, ESL classes, family support, AIDS prevention services, community health services, public health, food resources, child abuse prevention, domestic abuse intervention services, early childhood programming, and prostitution prevention among others. Top services requested include: housing (e.g. eviction prevention, security deposits), utilities, transportation, translation, and employment.

In Allied Drive Ryan Estrella facilitates a community-based team of 15 professionals working in the areas of housing, employment, education, AODA, nutrition, early childhood, and health with linkages to police, community center staff, faith-based organizations and neighborhood leaders. In Southwest Madison, Mike Bruce facilitates a network of 16 professionals working in the areas of education, health care, employment, early childhood and youth work with linkages to police and faith-based organizations.

Teaming efforts will initially involve JFF social workers, Court Diversion workers and local school staff. Other JFF team members will join the effort as appropriate. Key activities will be team meetings, case

management, home visits, resource and benefit linkage, ongoing family contacts with an emphasis on family support activities, and community service by youth. Key strategies will entail supporting the youth to be successful in school, keeping the focal household stable, and promoting youth and family participation in support and competency building activities in school, NIP and JFF programs. In general, delinquency staff will monitor youth compliance with deferred prosecution agreements and JFF staff will provide support services to their families.

Workspace will be provided to delinquency staff at both JFF sites to enhance collaboration. Initially JFF will team with court diversion workers on two cases, building to a caseload of five with other JFF team member participation. General JFF services will be available to all families of youth on DPAs residing in the target neighborhoods. If successful, the pilots will be expanded to other JFF sites across Dane County.

**Community Social Worker Ryan Estrella comments, "Implementing a program such as this is crucial in order to keep youth safe and out of formal systems. Oftentimes, schools suggest that the challenges they see in their children's behaviors at school are more indicative of issues arising at home and with their families. In order to be success-**

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## Subculture Corner

*Stephen Blue – Co-Chair  
Dane County Youth Gang Prevention Task Force*

The Dane County Youth Gang scene has been active in recent months. The most pressing concern of late has been the activity of the Deep End Girls and Mad Girls.

The largest of the two girl crews or gangs is reported to be at between 30-50 youth in the Deep End Girls. Why are we concerned? Because much of the tension developing between the two groups has been played out on social media, adult involvement and other protection crew development. The lack of parental intervention, the duration of the conflict, the turf nature of the conflict (Eastside versus Westside), and the connections to other male gangs, gives us reason for great concern.



*Stephen Blue*

In recent weeks these conflicts have involved fights with large numbers of onlookers at bus transfer points, parks and in neighborhoods. The core system partners have responded quickly with various meetings to discuss the extent of the problem and what can be done to intervene. Once we were able to identify the key players and leadership action steps were implemented, some potentially serious actions were interrupted.

During the same period of the girl events, we had incidents involving African American boys gangs, the Young Fellas, Mad Boys, Get Money Boys (GMB), Lick Squad and our normal BD and GD stuff. On the Latino boys front, there have been some renewed conflicts between MBP and C14.

The level and frequency of strong-armed robberies in the area are a major public protection concern. They have been involving two to three youth, striking victims and taking belongings.

Each summer we brace for a hot juvenile delinquency summer, anticipating increase referrals and violence. What the research has shown us is, statistically, this fear does not play out. I have said for many years that a small group of disconnected “catalyst kids” in certain neighborhoods can make it seem like a major crime wave is going on.

What to do you might ask??? The community must continue to provide a strong prevention, youth engagement service system. We must identify those youth who are in situations of being under nurtured, and/or lacking parental involvement in some of our challenged neighborhoods, and provide supportive outreach. For the group of youth who may be the “catalyst kids”, some who are disengaged, gang or criminally involved, research has shown that we must be willing to leverage in services. Based upon individual assessment that may include suppression and re-direction of negative pro-social behaviors.

### Highlights from the 2009 Evidence Based National Gang Survey- OJJDP- June 2011

- There were an estimated 28,100 gangs and 731,100 gang members throughout 3,500 jurisdictions nation wide.
- Larger cities and suburban counties accounted for more than 96 percent of all gang homicides
- The prevalence rate of gang activity increased to 34.5 percent from 32.4 percent in 2008

The full report can be found at: Highlights of the 2009 National Youth Gang Survey” (NCJ 233581) is available at <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/233581.pdf>.

# On Balance

## June Gang Quiz

1. Which of the following White Supremacist groups claimed responsibility for the derailment of an Amtrak train named the “Sunset Limited” near Hyder Arizona in 1995?
  - a. The Order
  - b. Ku Klux Klan
  - c. World Church of the Creator
  - d. The Sons of the Gestapo
2. Name the risk factors below that make a youth more likely to join a gang?
  - a. Engage in delinquent behavior.
  - b. Are aggressive or violent.
  - c. Experience multiple caretakers.
  - d. Feel unsafe.
  - e. All of the above
3. The Black P. Stone Nation (BPSN) is a “people” gang and ride under the five point star. Which of the gangs listed below is an enemy of BPSN even though they’re both all “people”?
  - a. Latin Kings
  - b. Cobra Stones
  - c. Vice Lords
  - d. Mickey Cobras

### **JFF**

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**ful, services need to be comprehensive and supportive of the entire family, not just targeting youth. That is exactly what we intend to do and I am hopeful that this kind of effort will have a deeper and more meaningful impact in preventing youth from entering the juvenile justice system.”**

JFF Program Manager Ron Chance observes, “In this era of budget cutting we have to increase our efforts

to collaborate and integrate services to support youth and families to keep them out of our formal systems where the interventions are more costly and criminal records often result in stigma and negative life trajectories. JFF is thankful for the opportunity to team on the DMC issue as a result of the substantial and outstanding effort put forth by the JJ DMC Solutions Work Groups. We are ready to begin this important work and team with our Delinquency Services colleagues.”

3. D  
2. E  
1. D  
Quiz Answers

### **CENTRO HISPANO OF DANE COUNTY TO RECEIVE 2011 FAMILY STRENGTHENING AWARD AT NCLR ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON D.C.**

Centro Hispano of Dane County is pleased to announce its ComVida Program has been selected as a recipient of the National Council of La Raza's (NCLR) 2011 Family Strengthening Award (FSA). Centro Hispano of Dane County—a member of NCLR's network of nearly 300 Affiliates—will receive a cash award of \$16,500 during the 2011 NCLR Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

Funded in part by United Way of Dane County and the City of Madison, Centro Hispano's ComVida program has been working to reduce delinquency and recidivism among Latino youth in Dane County, WI. Founded in 2007, ComVida has served more than 200 youth and their families with programming based on the idea that strong communities create strong families and strong families create strong youth.

ComVida provides the necessary skills for at-risk Latino youth to succeed while ensuring that youth's families and their community provide a healthy, supportive living environment.

The NCLR Family Strengthening Award, now in its 8th consecutive year, recognizes three Affiliates

whose holistic approach has made a measurable impact on strengthening the families they serve. The recipients commit to providing peer-to-peer training to Affiliates of their particular region over the course of one year.

"NCLR is committed to enhancing the capacity of Affiliate organizations and the way they serve the Latino community," said José Velázquez, Vice President of Affiliate Member Services at NCLR. "We are proud to support Centro Hispano as they work to promote their best practices with other Affiliates of the Midwest." Centro Hispano Executive Director Kenneth Craig adds, "We are very honored to have our youth development work recognized by NCLR. We look forward to continuing to make Dane County, Wisconsin a leader in providing innovative programs for Latino youth and families.

There is no doubt that this award will allow Centro Hispano to increase its capacity and effectiveness in serving Latino youth in Dane County. Plans to invest the award funds include creating a dedicated space for Latino youth at

Centro Hispano and strengthening gang prevention training for ComVida facilitators. In this way Centro Hispano will more effectively provide alternatives to gang-involvement among Latino youth in Madison, WI.

Centro Hispano of Dane County would like to thank the National Council of La Raza for their support as we continue to work toward our mission: *Empowering Youth. Strengthening Families. Engaging the Community.*"

For more information about Centro Hispano of Dane County, visit [www.micentro.org](http://www.micentro.org).

# Save The Date

“Managing the Revolving Door of Out of Home Placements”

**A Conference on Community Collaboration:** Providing effective community-based care requires a high level of collaboration, especially when a child might need short-term care out of the home. Learn from our panel of community experts on effective management and collaboration when a child is placed in an out of home setting. This highly informative conference will include the use of break out sessions and panel presentations to help you learn the Art of Collaboration as a means to keeping children at home and in their community.

Presented By:



**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS**

When: Friday, September 23, 2011  
8am-12:15pm

Where: American Family Corporate Office Training Center  
Building (A)  
6000 American Family Parkway  
Madison, WI

For information visit [www.community-partnerships.org](http://www.community-partnerships.org)  
Or call 608-250-6634

**Keynote Speakers: Jodee Grailer-Liedtke, Integrative Community Solutions**

**Parent/Youth Panel – Hear directly from our panel of experts (parents and youth) who have direct, front-line experience with psychiatric hospitals, foster/group homes and residential treatment centers.**

# On Balance

## Dane County Neighborhood Intervention Program in Action

### Right Track Services-Boys Metro Group Activity Snow Tubing at NPO Hill



### Madison Spartans Banquet 2011



*6th Grade Girls Team with Coach Amber Cunningham*



*7th Grade Boys Team Get Awards*



# On Balance

## Madison Spartans Banquet 2011 (cont.)



*A Look at the Awards Table*



*Some of the SpartansTeam's Tourney Championship*



*Memorial HS Senior, Domoniquer Golz, receives her MSB Lane of Honor Award. She will play BB next year at Ashville College in Iowa.*

# On Balance

## Juneteenth Freedom Classic Tourney at Penn Park



*5th Grade Boys Juneteenth Champions*



*7th Grade Boys Juneteenth Champions*



*6th Grade Boys Game Action*



*Former Spartans, Madison Lafollette Star and Eastern IL Graduate, David Dubois, helps with the Skills Clinic*

# On Balance

## Juneteenth Freedom Classic Tourney at Penn Park (cont.)



*UW Women's Basketball Player, A. Covington, and Former Spartan, Seneca Blue, run the Skills Camp at Juneteenth*

*The Group Pose at the Juneteenth Skills Clinic*



*UW Women BB Players, A. Covington & Jade Davis, pose with MSB 8th Girls Players, Merrisa Barber, Smith & Vivanne Gilbertson at Juneteenth*

# On Balance

## Buck Game to see Former Spartan Player, now NBA Star, Wes Matthews of the Portland TrailBlazers



*The Bradley Center*

*Isiah & Terrell & others enjoy the action*



*NIP-EISU staffers, Aaron Perry & Veronica Hereford, enjoy the game*