

Welcome to *E-YASI*, an electronic newsletter from the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA), written specifically for YASI users and policymakers, and juvenile justice professionals.

E-YASI is also available on the Probation Services Suite of *eJusticeNY* and on the DPCA website www.dpca.state.ny.us.



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IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1. Implementation of the Caseload Explorer/YASI Integrated Software**
- 2. Juvenile Case Planning and Reassessment Training for YASI Users**
- 3. Impact of YASI on high risk PINS and JD cases-Overview of JRISC**
- 4. Juvenile Justice News, Resources, and Trainings**

1. Implementation of the Caseload Explorer/YASI Integrated Software

DPCA is pleased to announce the beginning of the installs of the Caseload Explorer/YASI Integrated software during April/May 2010. There are 9 counties involved at this point, 6 live (Hamilton, Jefferson, Nassau, St. Lawrence, Tompkins, and Warren) and 3 in test (Franklin, Niagara, and Rockland). Installation of the CE/YASI software integrates probation automated case management and actuarial risk and need assessment functions, and provides probation professionals in New York State with the tools that are needed to do their work.

The CE/YASI integration pre-loads legal history information and will increase probation efficiency and provide new enhancements for all users. The CE/YASI software will enable users to access the YASI tool from within Caseload Explorer and to view the YASI results, reports, and documents from within Caseload Explorer.

The YASI 5 statewide database will continue to be hosted by Orbis Partners until it is migrated to the NY Offender Assessment and Data Sharing (NOADS) system, similar to the COMPAS adult assessment protocol.

2. Juvenile Case Planning and Reassessment Training for YASI Users

During the past 7 months DPCA has provided 12 sessions of the one-day "*Juvenile Case Management and Reassessment Training*" for YASI users to juvenile probation officers across NYS. Four (4) sessions were provided to Westchester County juvenile staff and sessions were also delivered regionally in Erie, Onondaga, St. Lawrence, Albany, Dutchess, Broome, Suffolk, and Nassau counties, training approximately 300 juvenile probation staff statewide.

The training focused on applying evidence-based principles to case work -- case planning, service referrals, effective programs and reassessments for JD and PINS cases during the diversion, investigation, and supervision stages of probation services. Participants learned to develop case plans that target specific risk and criminogenic need factors, including the use of protective factors, and adherence to the SMART (Small, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely) approach to effective case planning; learned to make referrals to services that specifically address the identified risk and need factors that give rise to the PINS or JD behavior; learned about services and interventions that are effective in reducing recidivism with the juvenile justice population; and appreciated the value associated with periodic case reassessment.

Probation staff needing YASI training for the Pre-Screen and Full Assessment should continue to utilize the YASI ELearning program which can be found at <http://www.vivatexte.com/eprep/orbis/yasi>. Once the program is completed, notice is sent to Orbis Partners, DPCA, and to the participant.

Any county wishing to arrange individual training or technical assistance with evidence based case planning and reassessment for YASI should contact Patti Donohue at 518-485-5160 or Patricia.Donohue@DPCA.state.ny.us.

3. Impact of YASI on high risk PINS and JD cases-Overview of JRISC

The Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program (JISP) was a DPCA funded program, supported by legislative appropriation, from 1994 - 2007. Data from 2006 indicated:

- 10 counties participated
- Approximately 300 youth were served annually
- 75% JISP youth were misdemeanants
- Violations of Probation (VOP) rate was 39%
- Of those VOP's, 71% were for technical violations NOT new offenses

The NYS experience with JISP mirrored the research – we were not getting much bang for our buck. Looking to the national research, at the end of 2007 DPCA de-funded JISP and in 2008 began the Juvenile Risk Intervention Service Coordination (JRISC) initiative, incorporating both RISK MANAGEMENT and RISK REDUCTION, to both manage current offenders and address their risk and need areas to reduce long term recidivism.

The goal of JRISC is to measurably reduce recidivism among high risk PINS and JD youth at either the diversion or probation stage. This is done through effective use of the YASI tool. JRISC counties use YASI to identify appropriate high risk youth to refer to the program, and then conduct periodic reassessments using YASI to quantitatively measure a youth's progress in reducing risk and/or increasing protective factors.

Additionally, through use of YASI domains and specific items, probation's ability to identify specific target areas for intervention and appropriate, evidence based services that can address these areas, probation can future delinquency and crime, detention, placement, and incarceration.

The 7 JRISC Counties include:

1. Dutchess, providing FFT
2. Monroe, providing FFT and MST
3. Niagara, providing BFST and MST
4. Onondaga, providing MST
5. Orange, providing Strengthening Families and ART
6. Oswego, providing FFT and Adolescent Transitions Program
7. Schenectady, providing FFT and ART

As we begin year 3, JRISC data shows promising results:

In 2008 (year one):

- \$1.68 million spent
- 187 HIGH risk JD and PINS cases entered JRISC
- 30 cases successfully completed evidence based intervention
- Savings of 30 placements at \$100,000 each...\$3.0 million

In 2009 (year two):

- \$1.049 million allocated for FY 2008-2009
- 335 HIGH risk JD and PINS cases entered JRISC
- 202 cases successfully completed evidence based intervention
- Savings of 202 placements at \$100,000 each...\$20.2 million

4. Juvenile Justice News, Resources, and Trainings

- ❖ OJJDP has published a 4 page In Focus Fact Sheet which reviews trends in girls' delinquency and describes research conducted by OJJDP. It also reports on OJJDP programs and publications that address girls' delinquency. "Girls' Delinquency" (NCJ 228414) is available at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=250433>.
- ❖ Models for Change have issued a recent publication "New Data on Sanctions and Services Supports the Use of Non-Institutional Alternatives". Data reported in the document found that institutional placement-which includes both correctional and residential treatment facilities-appears to have no advantage over community based services in addressing delinquency. To access this document, <http://www.modelsforchange.net/reform-progress/57>.
- ❖ The National Center for Children in Poverty has published "Children's Mental Health-What Every Policymaker Should Know". To access report, http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_929.html
- ❖ In April 2010 OJJDP publish the "Youth's Needs and Services: Findings from the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement". To access, go to <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=249735>

- ❖ Child Trends: What do evidence-based programs in action look like? The Partnership for Results is a model of local governance designed to implement a broad spectrum of evidence-based programs for the benefit of youth at risk. For a decade, the Partnership has operated in Cayuga County in Central New York. This brief describes the Partnership and its results; the elements of its model; obstacles to creating a continuum of evidence-based programs; and principles for replicating the Partnership's governance model.
http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2010_04_01_RB_EBProgramsinAction.pdf
- ❖ The NYS Commission of Correction and the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association are pleased to announce a series of **FREE** one-day training seminars through the state on the Handling and Processing of Juveniles. The training is designed for law enforcement to learn about Federal Requirements, relevant NYS laws and regulations, juvenile arrest procedures, classification of juveniles, fingerprinting, interviewing, Miranda, record keeping, and confidentiality. Juvenile probation officers are also invited and encouraged to attend. Each class is from 9am-4pm. To register for one of the 22 sessions being held around the state between May-September 2010, please go to the DCJS Training Calendar at <http://www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us/training.htm>
- ❖ A new newsletter is available for juvenile justice practitioners called the *ENGAGE Newsletter*. For those not familiar with ENGAGE, the ENGAGE initiative encompasses the following three state-local partnerships: 1) The Children's Plan; 2) The Systems of Care Initiative; and 3) The Commissioner's Cross-systems Initiative. The ENGAGE Newsletter will serve as a mechanism to keep individuals informed and up-to-date on the progress of these initiatives. To subscribe, send an email to ENGAGE@ccf.state.ny.us
- ❖ The NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (CQCAPD) continues to provide various trainings around NYS on special education issues. Over the past year 167 juvenile probation officers have participated in these trainings. CQCAPD will be presenting a workshop at the upcoming annual NYSPOA Conference in Albany August 11-13th, 2010. For more information, go to the CQCAPD website at www.cqcapd.state.ny.us.
- ❖ Ensuring the immediate safety and well-being of children following the arrest of a parent is the purpose of a resource developed by the NYS Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children. The four-panel brochure entitled "Be Sure Your Child is Cared For and Safe" includes information on how to make temporary arrangements for a child's care, as well as longer term plans. Community resources for caregivers are also provided. The brochure provides critical information for both incarcerated parents and the family members or friends who may need legal authority to meet the medical and educational needs of the child during the parent's incarceration. The flyer is available for download in English and Spanish on the Commission's website at <http://www.nycourts.gov/justiceforchildren/incarceratedparents.shtml>. The

flyer will be available in Chinese, Russian, Arabic, Korean, Bengali, Haitian Creole, and French later this year.

- ❖ The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy has published “Opening Doors to Higher Education for Youth in Foster Care Part II”, a policy brief which follows their March 2010 policy brief on this issue. This brief makes specific recommendations to improve youth in foster care readiness and success in post-secondary education. To access this policy brief, go to www.scaany.org.
- ❖ The Cornell Research Program on Self-Injurious Behaviors in Adolescents and Young Adults (CRPSIB) has the following new resources available via <http://www.crpsib.com/>
 - The factsheet What is self-injury? covers a range of topics, from who self-injures, why people self-injure, factors that contribute to self-injury, to issues of addiction and contagion.
 - The factsheet Therapy: Myths and misconceptions explains the truth behind some common misconceptions of therapy.
 - The factsheet Therapy: What to expect describes the goals of treatment, first steps in beginning therapy, confidentiality issues, characteristics of individual and family therapy, and more.
 - The factsheet Recovering from self-injury describes some common recovery processes and includes tips to make the recovery process easier.
 - The presentation Recovering from self-injurious behavior covers many of the same topics as in the above factsheet, but presents the information in a visual, narrated PowerPoint format.

YASI Factoid!

As of 3/30/10, there have been 105,535 youth assessed and 187,673 assessments (including reassessments) completed since YASI implementation in New York began in 2000.

E-YASI is distributed by the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA). If you have any questions or comments regarding the YASI project or E-YASI, please contact Patricia Donohue, Community Corrections Representative at 518-485-5160 or email her at Patricia.Donohue@DPCA.state.ny.us.