



**Texas Juvenile Justice Department**  
**Data Coordinators' Conference**  
September 12-13, 2016  
Embassy Suites Hotel I San Marcos, Texas

**Session Descriptions**  
*in Alphabetical Order*

**\$4.52... The Power of Positivity**

*Presenter: Anthony Welebob (Training Specialist at TJJD)*

This workshop is an engaging and interactive course that teaches participants how to improve their relationships and state of mind at work through personal empowerment. Enjoy your job and sustain a prosperous career by mastering four easy techniques that will be discussed during this fun presentation.

**Back to Basics: Your Data**

*Presenter: Carolina Corpus-Ybarra (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

This presentation focuses on the integral role of fidelity to data quality in routine case management system data entry and discusses the importance of reliable data. This session identifies and explores common data entry errors in working with county juvenile data. "Back to Basics" concludes with considerations and suggestions regarding department led efforts for improved data quality. This session is targeted to benefit those attendees who are new to working with juvenile case management systems or those who have experience with a juvenile case management system, but need a refresher.

**Beginners Use of Excel for Analysis**

*Presenter: Glenn Like (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

The presentation is primarily geared toward novice Excel users who have used JCMS. The presentation will deal with summarizing data (pivot tables, charts, and formatting), processing data for analysis (moving data inside a spreadsheet and functions), and three short projects (a worksheet to track student attendance, a worksheet to calculate average daily population if all you have is a list of juveniles and their dates in your custody, and calculating the recidivism rate).

**Comprehensive Data Audit Overview**

*Presenter: Jocelyn Lewis (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department Research Division audits all juvenile probation departmental data for data entry errors and consistency checks in a process known as the Comprehensive Data Audit (CDA). This presentation is intended for new data coordinators and for those interested in an overview of the CDA process. Also covered in this presentation are the three new checks to expect in the CDA next year.

## **Data Collection for Regionalization**

*Presenters: James Williams (Senior Director of Probation & Community Services at TJJD), Lori Robinson (Director of Community Mental Health Services at TJJD), Ashley Kintzer (Planner for Regionalization at TJJD), Deborah Harris (Regional County Program Administrator at TJJD), and Lou Serrano (Regional County Program Administrator at TJJD)*

The Data Collection for Regionalization presentation will review the target population for the Regional Diversion Application (RDA) process as well as the data reporting expectations for approved regional diversion youth placements. This session will also clarify descriptions for the regional start-up fund programs and identify the data reporting requirements for these programs.

## **Data-Informed Decision-Making**

*Presenters: Research and Planning Division at TJJD*

This presentation provides an overview of the many ways data from the juvenile probation departments and the state operated facilities are used by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. The Research Team receives on average three public records requests per week from advocacy groups, legislators, researchers, and the media, in addition to internal data requests and regular reporting to other state agencies. This presentation emphasizes the power of data to link people and organizations together, and to help make data-informed decisions for a better tomorrow.

## **Does it Work? Collecting and Managing Data for Program Evaluation**

*Presenter: Lory Alexander (Juvenile Justice Research Program Administrator at TJJD)*

Data is necessary to determine if a program works as intended. This presentation will focus on data needs for process and outcome evaluation. The target audience is anyone involved with program design, implementation, and evaluation and wanting ideas for collecting and using data.

## **Estimating ADP: An Analysis of the Impacts of Raising the Age**

*Presenter: Freya Gaertner (Research and Planning Specialist at TJJD)*

This presentation will provide an overview of TJJD's methods for estimating the impact of proposed legislation on its average daily population. The presentation will focus on the methodology used, and is intended to provide attendees with some ideas for building estimates and projections of their own. Researchers interested in learning a basic technique for estimating population are the intended audience.

## **Everything New Data Coordinators Should Know**

*Presenter: Beverly Ratzlaff (JCMS Support Analyst at TJJD)*

A data coordinator is responsible for maintaining the juvenile probation department's data by ensuring that information is entered accurately and promptly. This session will review a Data Coordinator's responsibilities and provide standard practices for basic data entry in JCMS. This class is intended for new Data Coordinators. Standard Practices discussed in this session were previously discussed at last year's conference.

## **Financial Reporting**

*Presenter: Tonya Gonzalez (Budget Analyst at TJJD)*

This presentation reviews fiscal reporting requirements.

## **Funding Source Audit Recap**

*Presenter: Jocelyn Lewis (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

This presentation reviews the data reporting requirements for the new state aid funding sources, and when to use only one of the new funding sources or the blended funding source option. In addition, this presentation details the Funding Source Audit error checks, explains how to fix the errors, and compares the results from the first three quarterly Funding Source Audits.

## **Incident Data – The Power of Data-Informed Decision Making**

*Presenter: Daniel Gunter (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

This presentation provides an overview of how incident data can be used to inform practices that lead to better, safer outcomes for both youth and staff. This presentation discusses the basics of data-informed decision making, how to view incidents data through the lens of process improvement, how TJJD uses incident data to inform behavior management practices, and what incident data could be used for in the future.

## **If You're Not Using It, You Should Be... It's The Law**

*Presenter: Judy McReynolds (Senior Title IV-E Program Specialist at TJJD)*

The Juvenile Medicaid Tracker (JMT) is the web-based application that was developed to meet the requirements of Sec. 531.02418 of the Government Code, which addresses the need for providing Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage in a timely manner for youth transitioning back into their homes from out-of-home placements. The Government Code instructs the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to ensure that each youth is assessed for eligibility for Medicaid and/or CHIP before being released from placement in a manner that will prevent gaps in coverage. It also holds the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) and local juvenile probation departments (JPDs) subject to the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) executed between TJJD and HHSC. JMT went live in April 2010 and facilitates the exchange of information between HHSC and juvenile justice agencies. Each JPD should have a designated JMT Coordinator. This session will provide a detailed overview of JMT and a brief overview of the program reviews to be conducted this fall.

## **It Made a Difference to That One... Doing the Right Thing**

*Presenter: Judy McReynolds (Senior Title IV-E Program Specialist at TJJD)*

The World Health Organization defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. This is true of our juvenile justice population as well, therefore our Texas Legislature has recently made great strides in ensuring that no eligible youth falls through the cracks in being able to access their Medicaid benefits upon return from out-of-home placements. This session will provide an overview of the new reporting process to address House Bill 839, enacted on June 15, 2015, requiring HHSC suspend rather than terminate Medicaid coverage for a child placed in a juvenile facility and establish a way for TJJD/JPDs to determine if a child is enrolled on Medicaid/CHIP; as well as an overview of the Juvenile Medicaid Tracker (JMT), the web-based application that was developed to meet the requirements of Sec. 531.02418 of the Government Code, which addresses the need for providing Medicaid/CHIP coverage in a timely manner for youth transitioning back into their homes from out-of-home placements.

## **JCMS User's Workgroup**

*Presenters: Amanda Zamarron (Applications Development Service and Support Manager at TJJD) and Jocelyn Lewis (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

This interactive session is a kick-off meeting specifically for JCMS power users who volunteered to participate in the JCMS User's Workgroup. The goal of this workgroup is to discuss best practices with users statewide and to encourage communication and networking between departments. Audience members are welcome to observe and sign-up to participate in future workgroup meetings.

## **Juvenile Justice Validated Risk Assessments and What It Means**

*Presenter: Andy Fazzio (Training Specialist at TJJD)*

This session looks at various data from validated risk assessments around the country to see what the trends are and what we can do to support it all. While showing these trends I will explain how and what happens when and after the data is collected.

## **Mental Health Data Entry: Updates and Clarifications**

*Presenter: Chara Heskett (Research Specialist at TJJD)*

This presentation focuses on updates related to mental health needs definition and data reporting, diagnosis reporting, and definition clarifications of Behavioral Health Services, Behavioral Health Treatments, and Mental Health Programming. This presentation concludes with best practice scenarios that could earn your team a prize (and bragging rights).

## **Navigating Juvenile Justice: Understanding the New Sealing Process**

*Presenter: Nydia D. Thomas (Special Counsel, Legal Education & Technical Assistance at TJJD)*

As the juvenile justice system in Texas continues to evolve, the expectation of confidentiality for youthful offenders must now be balanced with the onward march of the information age and the risks of the far-reaching consequences of unlawful conduct. In this session, data coordinators will be provided with a brief overview of key confidentiality provisions in Title 3 of the Family Code and an update on the procedural aspects of the "automatic" sealing. Frequently asked questions will be highlighted.

## **Recent Updates to JCMS**

*Presenters: Tom Gunter (JCMS Trainer at TJJD) and Amanda Zamarron (Applications Development Service and Support Manager at TJJD)*

This session is overview of JCMS updates from November 2016 – August 2016 for any JCMS user. Please note: This is not a 'hands-on' session.

## **Structured Decision-Making**

*Presenter: Pernilla Johansson (Director of Research and Planning at TJJD)*

This session will discuss structured decision-making.

## **Understanding Racial and Ethnic Disparity – A Snapshot of RED in Texas**

*Presenters: Chara Heskett and Daniel Gunter (Research Specialists at TJJD)*

This presentation provides a high-level overview of the foundation for Racial and Ethnic Disparity (RED), how TJJD currently uses data to analyze RED, and concludes with what you can do to start assessing RED in your community. This presentation also discusses findings from a comprehensive study of minority over-representation in Texas as a way to understand the multitude of factors, including race, which contribute to juvenile involvement at various stages in the juvenile justice system.

## **Utilizing TJJD Recidivism Rates**

*Presenters: Chara Heskett and Carolina Corpus-Ybarra (Research Specialists at TJJD)*

This presentation focuses on understanding and utilizing recidivism rates provided by the TJJD Research staff. The goal of this presentation is to aid in improving youth outcomes through data informed decision-making. This presentation will conclude with an example of the process for requesting and utilizing recidivism rates for the Discretionary State Aid (DSA) application process.