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AWARENESS MONTH

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which first began in 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence as a Day of Unity to connect battered women's advocates across the county.



- PJAC Travels to New Jersey
- New Leadership in Virginia
- VCCJA Elections
- Upcoming Training Opportunities

Pretrial Services, Criminal Justice Reform & New Jersey: What Does it Look Like?

During the first week of September, three VCCJA members (Cynthia Plummer, Jennifer Dennis, and Amanda Griffith) traveled to Trenton, New Jersey to observe New Jersey Criminal Justice Reform (CJR) procedures related to Pretrial Services. Criminal Justice Reform in New Jersey came about through New Jersey residents voting on a referendum. Once the referendum passed, a Joint Committee on Criminal Justice Reform was formed by the Chief Justice, which examined the various components of criminal justice reform and the committee made recommendations. One of the most important recommendations that came from the committee was that the system be risk based rather than resource based.

The group first met with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) along with Judge Glenn Grant, Acting Administrative Director of the Courts appointed by the NJ Chief Justice. The focus was on transparency of operations and an ongoing "marketing campaign". Their pretrial is a data driven process that allows prosecutors, defense attorneys, and the Court all to look at pretrial services throughout the process using a shared data system.

On the second day, they went to the Mercer County Criminal Courthouse in Trenton, NJ to meet with the Pretrial Services Team and Team Leader, Bernadette Ernst. Each VCCJA member met with different Pretrial Services personnel which included meeting with staff who completed the court docket, the Public Safety Assessment (PSA), and court personnel (prosecuting attorney, defense attorneys, and judges).

The structure of the New Jersey Judiciary is very different from Virginia in that it includes a larger component of criminal justice practitioners including 9,000 support staff (pretrial services, probation, clerks and clerical, etc.) in addition to the 400 judicial officers.

For more information visit:

<https://www.njcourts.gov/courts/criminal/reform.html>



For more information visit: <https://www.vccja.org> .

New Leadership in Virginia

Ms. Shelby Johnson, Director of Henrico County Community Corrections. Her career began with local probation in 2000 as a Probation Officer. She was promoted to Unit Supervisor in 2011 and then to her current position in 2019. She received Meritorious Service Award from VCCJA in 2011. Ms. Johnson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Strayer University.



Ms. Kelly Hale, Director of Programs and Community Corrections at Rappahannock Regional Jail. She spent the last nineteen years with the Rappahannock Regional Drug Treatment Court. She spent five years as a Drug Court Case Manager with the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board. She also spent fourteen years as the Drug Court Administrator, employed by the Rappahannock Regional Jail.

Ms. Robin Autry has been named Interim Program Manager for the City of Richmond's Division of Adult Programs (DAP), effective September 18, 2019, following the resignation of Jennifer MacArthur. Robin joined Richmond in 2008 as a probation officer and she became a probation supervisor in 2012. She has over 25 years experience in criminal justice, with a Master's degree in criminal justice and certifications in both substance abuse counseling and workforce development. Prior to her employment with Richmond, she was employed as a substance abuse counselor, case management counselor with DOC, classification officer at the Henrico County Jail and a member of the Technical Services Unit at DCJS.



Ms. Jolynn Perry, Program Manager of Accomack-Northampton Community Corrections since June 24, 2019. She and her husband have two children, a 12 year old son and 15 year old daughter as well as four furbabies (boxers). Jolynn previously worked for a local defense attorney where her love for the criminal justice system blossomed. She is currently a full-time student at Liberty University and will be graduating with an Associate's Degree in the Spring of 2020. She then plans to pursue her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Jolynn is looking forward to this new journey and watching her local program grow!

Upcoming Training Opportunities

JOIN US

Join us and be part of one of our committees:

Awards

Cultural Awareness

Fund Raising

Conference

Legislative

Membership & Nominations

Public Relations

Training

Visit:

www.vccja.org

for additional information.



2019 VCCJA Training Conference

Join us at the Hotel Madison, November 20-22, 2019 for the 2019 VCCJA Training Conference.

Career Prospects for People With Criminal Records Symposium: What can Researchers, Policymakers, and Practitioners Do to Improve Outcomes?

Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Time: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: RAND Corporation

1200 South Hayes Street

Arlington, VA 22202

https://www.rand.org/events/2019/10/15.html?fbclid=IwAR2DjzPRU2P0yvVvJ8RH5a5marJbAPOYIQSPRozk5-h0diiCl_DURRcrRO8

2019 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Conference

Virginia State University is hosting the second annual Racial and Ethnic Disparities conference. They are partnering with multiple organizations this year: Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice, Virginia DJJ, Virginia DOC, Virginia DCJS, Virginia Juvenile Justice Association, and the City of Petersburg VJCCCA Program.

Date: October 31, 2019 8:00 a.m. to November 1, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Location: Virginia State University

1 Hayden Street

Petersburg, VA 23806

https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/m?oeidk=a07egkc34gwb39af26b&oseq&c=ec400bd0-dbbb-11e3-b19c-d4ae52a45a09&ch=ed591cf0-dbbb-11e3-b241-d4ae52a45a09&fbclid=IwAR1i_i22wmkR9Zh2HV45cRyDkAOTEdtm5DTH7eGQDQzZbvnOi0xerSF49Ns



VCCJA Election Nominees

President Elect

Amanda Griffith

Vice President

Shelby Johnson

Tomaudrie Thomas

Jennifer Dennis

Hal Diggs

Treasurer

Maureen Anderson

Ann Marie Freeman

Staff Representative

Christopher Jacobs

David Gonier

Tasha Brown

Robin Autry

Eastern Region Representative

Dana Otey

Nothern Region Representative

Caitlyn Dinger

Tara Coleman

Tenisha Carter