President’s Message

These are strange times for children in Illinois. While there are encouraging bi-partisan trends to reduce incarceration for misdemeanants, to reduce detention for children under 13, and to keep the Redeploy Illinois budget intact, the budget crunch is decimating many of the community-based programs necessary to serve as the safety nets, or alternatives to confinement.

We in the juvenile justice community must make our voices heard to maintain essential services and prevention and intervention programs for our children.

At the same time, the trends toward reduced reliance on confinement, and elimination of adult court trial of children are very positive. Transfer reform seems finally possible, thanks to research from the Juvenile Justice Initiative, a strong criticism of transfer policies from the Illinois Supreme Court, and courageous leadership from Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and State Representative Elaine Nekritz. Read about transfer reform in House Bill 172, featured on page 6 of this newsletter.

Transfer reform is possible due to the success of Raise the Age in Illinois. Despite bringing seventeen year olds charged with felonies back to the juvenile court, the number of children in state prison continues to decline. Indeed, we are now at historic lows, with fewer than 700 children in state juvenile prison facilities in the Dept. of Juvenile Justice.

The next frontier is to replicate these successful juvenile strategies for Young Adults. You will read about our Young Adult Summit, and the Juvenile Justice Initiative’s research documenting the waste of 4,011 Admissions of Young Adults (ages 18-21) to Cook County jail in 2013 – for misdemeanor offenses. Jailing young adults for misdemeanor offenses serves only to permanently derail our young adults at a critical time in their life when they most need help finishing school and gaining employment. This newsletter contains some preliminary ideas, including restorative justice programming, to serve as an alternative to jail for Young Adults.

Spring is finally here for most of us – it’s time to make sure our children have spring in their lives too.

Elizabeth Clarke, President

This newsletter is made possible by grants from a number of foundations:

Alphawood Foundation, Chicago Community Trust, Field Foundation of Illinois, Public Welfare Foundation, & Woods Fund of Chicago,
as well as the support of numerous individuals and organizations. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of JJI alone.
Young Adults: Moving from Prisons to Pathways of Hope

The February 27th summit “Young Adults: Moving from Prisons to Pathways of Hope” co-sponsored by the Juvenile Justice Initiative and the Mansfield Institute for Social Justice and Transformation, explored global and national initiatives on the treatment of young adults and effective community alternatives to incarceration. Close to 200 people were in attendance. Attendees learned about practices and trends in Germany and the U.K., and examined suggestions for implementation of juvenile diversion and sentencing opportunities for young adults in Illinois.

This summit was made possible by support from Chicago Community Trust and Woods Fund of Chicago.

Over a century ago, reformers in Chicago initiated a series of policies based on the internationally progressive concept that children are different from adults and deserve special treatment. The progressive movement involved extensive collaboration with reformers in Europe. Jane Addams and other Chicago reformers brought back the concept of a “kindergarten” from progressives in Germany, and established a settlement house (Hull House) in Chicago modeled after Toynbee House in London. Chicago, however, bears the proud title of establishing the world’s first juvenile court in 1899, with the British following suit in 1903, and Germany in 1908.

In this same spirit, over 200 officials, community leaders, academics, social activists and youth recently gathered at the century old Auditorium building in Roosevelt University in Chicago to learn about successful practices and policies for young adults in conflict with the law - learning from their counterparts in the United Kingdom and Germany.

The summit, held on February 27, 2015, included speakers Brent Cohen, from the U.S. Department of Justice, Dr. Debbie Pippard, Head of Programmes at the Barrow Cadbury Trust in London, England, and Professor Ralph Grunewald of the University of Wisconsin (and originally from Germany). The summit also included a speaker on education transition planning, a panel discussion, with system-involved youth, on restorative justice, the results of a public opinion poll on young adults conducted by Roosevelt University students along with small group discussions. You can review the presentations here: http://goo.gl/Mx038F.

Young adults are a costly issue in Chicago. In 2013, the JJI found there were over 4,000 admissions of young adults (ages 18-21) to the Cook County Jail for alleged misdemeanor offenses.
There were nearly 12,000 admissions of young adults to the Cook County jail in 2013, but most were for non-person offenses with half of the admissions for drug/property offenses. This expansive use of jail time is in stark contrast to the international movement to divert and treat young adults in conflict with the law using juvenile diversion and sentencing.

Across Illinois and around the globe, research consistently establishes that young people age out of criminal offending. Age arrest curves demonstrate a sharp decrease from criminal conduct in the early twenties – simply put, young people naturally age out of delinquent behavior in their early twenties.

Professor Grunewald shared that in Germany, after WWII, there was concern over a generation of young people who were fatherless. Acknowledging their lack of adult parental figures, and believing that young people will grow out of criminal behavior, the German government extended juvenile court for all young people up to age 21, and extended the possibility of juvenile treatment up to age 24. The result – individual treatment of young offenders up to their early twenties – was so successful that it remains in place today. No one below age 21 is tried in adult court, and the maximum sentence for any offense is 15 years. Youth facilities are “normalized” with extensive movement in and out of the community for school and work – more like our group homes than prisons. The results are clear – relying on individual treatment with use of humane facilities as a last resort results in lower recidivism, based on all the evidence that young people grow out of criminal behavior.

The Netherlands and the United Kingdom have taken note of Germany’s success with young adults, and are modeling reforms after the German policies. In the U.K., a series of pilot programs have demonstrated similar success utilizing juvenile diversion and treatment programming for young adults. The U.K. pilots have been evaluated and the results are posted on the Transition to Adulthood website at [http://www.t2a.org.uk](http://www.t2a.org.uk).

Based on the research presented at the summit, we believe it is time the U.S. join the international movement and allow the use of juvenile diversion and sentencing options, including community-based restorative justice, for young adults in conflict with the law.

PowerPoint presentations are available on our website: [http://jjustice.org/young-adult-summit-follow/](http://jjustice.org/young-adult-summit-follow/)

Download JJI’s report “Young Adults in Conflict with the Law: Opportunities for Diversion” here: [http://goo.gl/WwgRQP](http://goo.gl/WwgRQP)

“The single most frequently asked question is ‘Can you help me get a job?’”

Statement by Father Kelly, of Precious Blood Ministries, during the panel discussion on restorative justice on the most frequently asked question he gets from young adults in his program.
Q&A with Brent Cohen, Advisor to the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs

**What is your role?**

I am responsible for the young adult portfolio. I collaborate with others in our office, and across the Department of Justice and other federal agencies to advance this work.

**What are the goals of this effort?**

The goal is to create an environment that is rooted in science and best practice, so that we can begin moving towards a criminal justice system that is more developmentally-appropriate in its response to young adults. Ultimately, this should lead to improved outcomes for justice-involved young adults, and contribute to safer communities.

**What do you hope to accomplish?**

We cannot afford to squander the opportunity to positively shape the lives of justice-involved young adults and reduce criminal activity, by treating them as if they were fully developed order adults. We hope to advance a conversation regarding young adulthood that is rooted in science, so that justice practitioners and other stakeholders recognize "young adulthood" as a distinct developmental stage that requires developmentally-appropriate interventions.

**Do you have any recommendations for states looking for better outcomes for young adults in conflict with the law?**

States and cities can look to their peers around the country who are doing some interesting work with young adults. For example, San Francisco has done tremendous work with young adults through the Department of Probation, and is getting ready to launch a young adult court. New York City launched the Neighborhood Opportunity Network through the Dept. of Probation, and New York State has a Youthful Offender law, which seals records for some young people so they can have a second chance. These are just a few of the many examples out there. Most importantly, however, states must understand the ongoing brain development of young adults, how it influences their behavior, and how it provides an opportunity for positive intervention.

Often, we think of people as either children or adults, with the dividing line at age 18. But, the research regarding brain development tell us something different - the brain is not fully developed until well into the 20s, usually around age 25. Young adults are developmentally different than younger youth, and they’re developmentally different than older adults. They are at prime age for risk-taking behavior, and they are still malleable to appropriate intervention. The Department of Justice is focusing special attention on this sub-population, because there is an opportunity to advance public safety and reduce the number of future victims by responding to justice-involved young adults in a more developmentally appropriate manner that takes advantage of the brain’s ongoing development and malleability.
The Juvenile Justice Initiative recently released a report, *Young Adults in Conflict with the Law: Opportunities for Diversion*, that analyzes arrest data and Cook County jail admission records of young adults ages 18 - 21. Our research found that over 60 percent of arrests of young adults, ages 18 - 21, in Illinois are for misdemeanor offenses, and over 4,000 admissions to the Cook County jail were based on misdemeanor charges. Below is a brief summary of the report.

**The number of arrests has been decreasing.**
Over the course of the past thirteen years, the arrests of young adults ages 18 – 21 peaked in 2007 (115,688 arrests recorded) and have since declined. In 2013, 79,926 arrests of young persons ages 18 – 21 were recorded, which is a 30.9% decrease from 2007 and a 9.9% drop from 2012.

**A majority of the arrests were for misdemeanors.**
Over 60% of the entire arrests were made for misdemeanor offenses. Less than 3% of arrests were accounted for by murder and Class X offenses.

**About a third of young adults admitted to the Cook County jail were charged with misdemeanors.**
In 2013, Cook County jail recorded a total of 11,816 admissions of young adults age 18 – 21. Of these, a third (33.9%) – 4,011 admissions – were based on misdemeanor charges. A majority of the overall admissions (71.5%) were based on non-violent offenses. Almost all of the admissions based on weapon offenses were for non-violent offenses.

**A majority of the young adults were admitted to the jail only once**, but 1,462 young adults were admitted twice, 360 were admitted three times, and 81 were admitted four times, and 47 were admitted five times or more within the same calendar year. **21.2% of unique individuals (9,187) accounted for 38.8% of the overall admissions.**

**Illinois has a variety of diversion options available:**
Illinois has a unique set of effective diversion options in the Illinois Juvenile Court Act. These range from police diversion to probation adjustments, and include prosecutorial led community mediation panels.

1. **Diversion by Police:** Station adjustments in the Illinois Juvenile Court Act (405/5-301) give police broad discretion to release a minor with reasonable conditions including no contact with specific persons, restrictions on entry into geographic areas, school attendance, up to 25 hours of community service, restitution, peer court, or community mediation.

2. **Diversion by Probation:** Probation officers have the ability to divert cases from court processing through probation adjustment (405/5-305), a process that involves a preliminary conference with the minor, parents and the victim. An adjustment plan is developed as an alternative to court processing. The plan may include counseling, informal probation supervision, community service, and even referral to residential treatment.

3. **Diversion by Prosecutor:** The Juvenile Court Act includes community mediation (405/5-310) as a third alternative to court processing. Community mediation panels are set up by prosecutors. Cases referred to community mediation panels may include station adjustments or probation adjustments that have not succeeded and are referred as a last alternative to court processing.

Read full report here: [http://goo.gl/qna7cD](http://goo.gl/qna7cD)
TRANSFER REFORM

House Bill 172, Amendment 1, Chief Sponsors: Representatives Nekritz, Gabel, Flowers, Guzzardi and Currie

HB172 HFA1 expands requirement of review by a juvenile judge to determine whether a child is tried in juvenile or adult court through an individualized court hearing that takes into account the child’s age, degree of participation in the offense, and his/her individual circumstances. Currently in Illinois, children can be automatically transferred to adult court based on their age and the charge, as determined by the State's Attorney, without ever appearing before a juvenile court judge. This practice disproportionately impacts African American children, depriving them of their right to juvenile court and the rehabilitative services it offers. This bill does not eliminate the option of adult prosecution; it simply gives juvenile court judges the discretion of determining where a child will be tried, after consideration of all relevant factors.

DETENTION REFORM

House Bill 2567, Chief Sponsors: Reps. Gabel, Thapedi and Dunkin; Senators Steans and Silverstein

HB2567 requires that prior to admitting a child ages 10-12 to a county juvenile temporary detention center, a determination be made that a local youth service provider is not able to accept the child. Illinois allows children as young as 10 to be confined before trial in county juvenile detention centers. Detained children are isolated from their families, their schools and their communities, and studies reveal significant harm to children from even a short period of detention. This bill requires that for 10-12 year olds an effort is made for an alternate placement such as with a provider in the Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services (CCBYS) network. This bill passed out of the House with bi-partisan support and unanimously out of the Senate Criminal Law committee. It will be heard in the full senate soon.

SENTENCING and PAROLE REFORM

Senate Bill 1560, Chief Sponsors: Senators Raoul, Righter and Atchoff; Reps. Nekritz, Guzzardi and Gabel

SB1560 prohibits the commitment of youth to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ; juvenile prison) for misdemeanor and status offenses, limits the period of confinement in IDJJ to not exceed the length of time an adult could be imprisoned for the same offense and limits the period for which a child can be on aftercare release (parole) to six months for a Class 3 felony or lesser offense; one year for a Class 1 or 2 felony; and 1.5 years for a Class X felony. This bill passed out of the Senate unanimously on April 22, 2015 and is currently pending committee assignment in the House of Representatives.

House Bill 2471, Chief Sponsors: Reps. Currie, Drury, Sandack and Sullivan; Senators Harmon, Raoul, Muñoz and Lightfoot

HB2471 eliminates mandatory sentences of natural life imprisonment for persons convicted of offenses committed before they attain 18 years of age (JLWOP). This bill also provides that when a person commits an offense and the person is under 18 years of age at the time of the commission of the offense, the court, at the sentencing hearing, shall consider in mitigation in determining a sentence the person’s potential for rehabilitation or evidence of rehabilitation, or both. The bill passed out of the House with bi-partisan support on April 23, 2015 and is currently pending committee assignment in the Senate.

House Bill 2470 Chief Sponsors: Reps. Currie, Drury, Sandack and Sullivan

HB2470 provides that a person who was under 18 years of age at the time of an offense, may, after serving 15 years of his or her sentence of either a term of natural life imprisonment or a term or cumulative term of 40 years or more of imprisonment, submit a petition for sentencing review in the circuit court of the county in which he or she was originally sentenced. This bill passed out of the House Restorative Justice committee and after further negotiations may be considered by the full House.

Please visit our website at www.jjustice.org for more information on these bills.
Florida Applies *Miller* Retroactively

The Supreme Court of Florida applied *Miller v. Alabama* retroactively. This means that the nearly 200 people sentenced to mandatory life without parole as children in Florida will be newly eligible for resentencing under recently enacted Florida legislation.

*Miller* found in 2012 that it is against the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment to impose an automatic sentence of life without parole for a crime committed by a person younger than 18 at the time of the offense. In 2014, Florida passed a bill HB7035 to offer juvenile offenders the chance to have their cases reviewed after serving a certain number of years, effective July 1, 2014.

The new question was whether this state law or the Miller decision applies retroactively to young offenders sentenced to life without a possibility of parole in the past.

In *Falcon v. Florida*, the Florida Supreme Court on March 19, 2015 held that *Miller* applied retroactively to juvenile offenders whose convictions and sentences were final at the time that *Miller* was decided. The court went on to find that “the rule set forth in Miller constitutes a ‘development of fundamental significance,’ and therefore must be given retroactive effect.” Read full opinion here: [http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc12-865.pdf](http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc12-865.pdf)

In *Horsley v. Florida* (2015), the Florida Supreme Court held the 2014 resentencing law needs to be applied retroactively to juvenile offenders whose sentences violate the Eight Amendment under Miller but were imposed for crimes committed prior to the effective date. Read full opinion here: [http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc13-1938.pdf](http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc13-1938.pdf)

Florida Finds Lengthy Sentences for Non-Homicide Offenses Unconstitutional

The Supreme Court of Florida struck down lengthy sentences imposed on youth for non-homicide offenses. The Court reasoned that the two sentences – one 70-year sentence and one life-plus-60-years sentence – constituted life imprisonment and were therefore unconstitutional under *Graham v. Florida* (2010).

In 2010 *Graham v. Florida*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that life sentences for juveniles without a “meaningful opportunity for release” violate the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

In *Gridine v. Florida* (2015), the Florida Supreme Court examined whether the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Graham v. Florida* prohibits the sentencing of a 14-year-old to a prison sentence of 70 years for the crime of attempted first degree murder. The court ruled that such a sentence is ultimately a life sentence, and does not provide a meaningful opportunity for future release and is therefore unconstitutional under *Graham*. Read full opinion here: [http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc12-1223.pdf](http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc12-1223.pdf)

In *Henry v. Florida* (2015), the Florida Supreme Court addresses whether a term-of-years prison sentence (of life plus 60 years in this case) constitutes life imprisonment. The court found that such a lengthy sentence imposed for non-homicide crimes did constitute life imprisonment and was unconstitutional under *Graham*. Read full opinion here: [http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc12-578.pdf](http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/2015/sc12-578.pdf)
Data Snapshot: Juvenile Arrests (Ages 10-17) in Illinois, 2013

Every year, thousands of youth are arrested in Illinois, yet the majority of them do not ever go to court. While about 75% of juvenile arrests do not result in formal charges in Cook County, mere arrest records have lasting consequences for youth. JJI examined the 42,044 records of youth ages 10-17 arrested from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

Majority of Youth Arrested for Misdemeanors
An average of 60% of juvenile arrests reported were for alleged misdemeanor offenses in CY2013. Class X and murder 1 accounted for less than three percent of juvenile arrests. Given that the local police is not mandated to submit misdemeanor records, data indicates that municipalities chose to report misdemeanor arrests to the State Police for inclusion in the statewide database.

Arrest Happens in Selective Neighborhoods
Juvenile arrests in Cook County were predominantly made for youth in south and west sides of Chicago. Eight zip codes accounted for 33.5% of entire Cook County arrests. Even given the high concentration of arrests in these zip codes, the majority of arrests were for misdemeanors (59.7%), 24.8% were for felonies excluding murder, and 0.1% for murders.

Black Youth are Over Represented in Arrests
Black youth were almost seven times more than White youth (RRI=6.70) in Illinois, and 5.66 times more than white youth in Cook County (RRI=5.66). Further, black youth in Cook County accounted for almost half of the overall statewide arrests.

Thousands of Youth are Arrested for Drug Offenses
In CY2013, drug arrests accounted for 15.1 percent of statewide juvenile arrests and 16.2 percent of Cook County juvenile arrests. In Cook County, 85.0% of the drug arrests 3 were for mere possession. Of statewide and Cook County drug arrests, 70.0 % and 68.8 % were misdemeanors respectively.

Read full brief here: http://goo.gl/6MHiJU

Question? Contact Kanako Ishida, Policy Research Analyst (ki@jjustice.org).

1. Some homicides are categorized either as murder or Class X, and they are mutually exclusive. For instance, if you commit an attempt murder, it is categorized as a homicide in offense type break down and as Class X felony in offense class break down, as opposed to murder.
2. Arrest and population data do not have an ethnicity coding. Hispanic youth can be coded either black or white.
3. For this breakdown, all the arrests that included drug charges were included.
Youth in the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center Enjoy Literacy Program

by Kanako Ishida, Policy Research Analyst, JJI

Children housed in the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC) look forward to Free Write Jail Arts (Free Write) workshops. Started in 2000, Free Write meets four times a week at the Nancy B. Jefferson Alternative School, housed in the JTDC, to teach creative writing, poetry, media literacy and visual arts. Free Write hopes that the skills their students acquire through their workshops empower them to find pathways for self-expression and self-actualization. The program now has a waiting list.

Students are referred to the program by the JTDC staff or Nancy B. Jefferson School teachers. The staff and teachers find talent to be cultivated among the children they teach and take care of every day. And most students want to participate.

Most of the children in the Free Write workshops are “AT,” meaning children whose cases have been “automatically transferred” to adult court. In Illinois, children as young as 13 can be automatically prosecuted in adult court without prior review by a juvenile court judge. Unlike children whose cases are heard in juvenile court, and are likely to be released relatively quickly, “AT” children can wait in the JTDC for almost a year for their adult trial. Free Write tries to help these children make the most of their time in the detention center.

“After getting settled at the JTDC, these young people want to be more productive....[they] are intelligent and hungry to learn,” says Ryan Keesling, Director of Free Write. He explains that though they are facing serious charges, they are still 15, 16 or 17 year olds. “They’re still children.” Mathilda de Dios, Associate Director of Free Write, says she hopes to create a space, in collaboration with the JTDC and CPS, where the students can feel validated. Students who participate in the workshops report feeling “a sense of belonging.”

At a workshop, Elgin Smith, one of teaching artists, teaches the students how to create hand-drawn animation that involves multiple drawings of figures that are slightly different from one another and skills to use industry-standard computer software. As soon as the students enter the classroom, they sit down and start drawing - as if they could not wait. “Students look forward to this workshop every week and get very disappointed if the class gets cancelled.” One JTDC staff member says. “They maintain good behavior to keep their right to participate. They feel motivated every time they leave the room.”

Learn more about the Free Write here: http://www.freewritejailarts.org/. Learn about Automatic Transfers here: http://jjjustice.org/resources/juvenile-transfer-to-adult-court/

Thinking

Darell

I sit here thinking.
I’m thinking of me.
What will I be?
Who will I meet?
What does the future hold for me?
Will my brother and sisters always look up to me?
Will my choices in life help me succeed?
Or will I get caught up grindin’
and hustling out in the streets?
I wonder when’s the day death
will decide to creep up on me?
Where will I be?
Until then I will live my life making it
comfortable.
I just pray that the lord is watching
and guiding me.

Most Days

Eric V.

most days it’s like my life is slipping away
‘cause I’m in this place
because of this case
everyday my mother cry her eyes out
like she been mased
most days I wake up mad
shake my head
like how did I get in this mess?
I shouldn’t been hanging with
them dudes I was with
In the News
Juvenile Justice Issues: A Sampling of National and Illinois Media

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

**OP-ED: Indiscriminate Shackling of Children in Juvenile Court Should End**

January 15, 2015


**Chicago Tribune**

**Long-troubled Cook County juvenile detention center gets new leader**

February 5, 2015


**Huffington Post**

**Prosecutors Should Support Juvenile Justice Reform Legislation**

March 2, 2015

True justice is never a zero-sum game. All of us, including prosecutors, should be concerned with both healing of victims and their families, protection of our communities, and reforming children who have acted out violently, many of whom have themselves suffered violence. We must invest in rehabilitative programs that bring about lasting change because we know children have great potential to improve and move beyond the worst moment of their young lives. Read more: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/preston-shipp/prosecutors-should-support-juvenile-justice-reform-legislation_b_6783914.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/preston-shipp/prosecutors-should-support-juvenile-justice-reform-legislation_b_6783914.html)

**The Economist**

**Children in Adult Jails: Treating young offenders like grown-ups makes little sense**

March 28, 2015

Whether a child is judged as an adult depends more on the state than the crime. In Pennsylvania any child accused of homicide must begin in adult court. In Mississippi a 13-year-old accused of a felony will be sent to adult court, but in Alabama offenders remain juveniles until they are 16 (though judges can choose to send those as young as 14 to criminal court). In North Carolina and New York 16-year-olds always face adult courts. When judges and prosecutors have discretion over how to charge a juvenile, they use it unevenly. In 2012 black youths were 40% more likely to be charged as adults as their white peers, according to the Justice Department. Read more: [http://www.economist.com/news/united-states/21647347-treating-young-offenders-grown-ups-makes-little-sense-children-adult-jails](http://www.economist.com/news/united-states/21647347-treating-young-offenders-grown-ups-makes-little-sense-children-adult-jails)

**State Journal-Register**

**Elizabeth Robb: Eliminate automatic transfer of children to adult court in Illinois**

April 2, 2015

In cases where prosecutors alone decide whether to transfer to adult court [automatic transfer], there is no public hearing, there are no criteria for the prosecutor to weigh before determining whether the child should be prosecuted as an adult, and there is no appeal process. A child is deprived of the opportunity to have an attorney assigned to juvenile court — often one who has special training in adolescent development — gather pertinent information about the child's physical and emotional development, whether he or she has received special education services or psychological/psychiatric treatment, or whether he or she has been treated in a residential treatment facility or is a ward of the Department of Children and Family Services as a result of being abused or neglected. Read more: [http://www.sj-r.com/article/20150401/OPINION/150409924/-1/json](http://www.sj-r.com/article/20150401/OPINION/150409924/-1/json)

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The Juvenile Justice Initiative is an independent, non-governmental advocacy entity that exists on contributions from foundations and individuals. Through the printing of research reports, newsletters, and a website, as well as the provision of workshops and conferences, we have been able to share current research and legislative information. Please consider a donation to JJI so we can keep providing you with timely information on juvenile justice issues. In an effort to update our database, please fill out the form below and return it with your donation. Please call us if you have any questions at: (847) 864-1567.

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Evanston, IL 60201

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Lawyers!
Looking for Professional Responsibility CLE Credits?

Friday, June 5, 2015
Juvenile Justice Comparative Law MCLE Courses
6 PR MCLE Credits Available

Learn about international developments in juvenile justice law in comparison to the U.S. Attendees will come away from this program with an understanding of how laws, policy and practices in other countries address juvenile justice issues common throughout the world, continuing challenges and the role lawyers can play in promoting the rights of children. There are two sessions - morning and afternoon - attend one or both. Lawyers and non lawyers are welcome.

Date: June 5, 2015, 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm
Cost: $125 per session or $225 for both. Lunch included.
Location: DLA Piper, 203 N. LaSalle Street, 19th Fl., Chicago, IL 60601
Registration: http://jjicomplawcle.eventbrite.com

For more information, visit our website at www.jjustice.org
or contact Julia Sportolari at jjicle@jjustice.org.
Save the Date

September 16, 2015
JJI’s Annual Fundraiser
Another Chance/ An Equal Chance
Honoring
CSO Music Director
Riccardo Muti
For bringing music and hope to children incarcerated in Illinois.
More details to follow.