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The work of JIDAN is made possible by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

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5th Annual Models for Change Working Conference

On December 6-7, 2010, the [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#) and the [Coalition for Juvenile Justice](#) (CJJ)

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The Fall JIDAN SIG meeting will be held November 15-16 at the [Roosevelt Hotel](#) in New Orleans. Reservations can be made [online](#) or by calling 1-800-WALDORF.

The Pacific Juvenile Defender Center (PJDC) Roundtable will be held November 6 in Sacramento, CA. Contact [Corene Kendrick](#) for more information.

At the [National Juvenile Justice Network](#) (NJJN) 8th Annual Forum, Clay Walker, deputy public defender and director of Juvenile Defender Services at the Louisiana Public Defender Board was honored with NJJN's 2010 Leadership Award in juvenile justice reform.

This was the inaugural year for the award, which is given to individuals or organizations that have engaged in exceptional advocacy and served as visionary leaders for juvenile justice system reform in their state or region.

About the honoree

Clay Walker was appointed to the Louisiana Public Defender Board in 2003 and has since utilized a cutting-edge approach to juvenile defense. Mr. Walker has developed a training to better understand the school to prison pipeline and seeks to educate defenders regarding the role mental health issues play in school discipline and juvenile justice. Mr. Walker has pushed for a new approach to youth in the courtroom, and worked to break down the barriers between juvenile justice agencies, schools, public defenders, prosecutors, and other groups in an effort to work collaboratively and more efficiently. Mr. Walker focuses both on improving individual

will host the **5th Annual Models for Change Working Conference** in Washington, D.C. for MfC and Action Network states. Participation in the conference is by invitation only.

The Foundation is issuing a "**call for presentations**," which reflect the latest advancements in Models for Change sites. The call is open until September 16 at 5:00 p.m.

If you'd like to present a workshop idea, or for more information contact: Rey Cheatham Banks at rbanks@njdc.info

Quick Links

[Children and Family Justice Center](#)

[Barry University Juvenile Justice Center](#)

[Juvenile Regional Services](#)

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representation of youth as well as supporting large-scale systemic and legislative reform.

JIDAN in the News

Los Angeles Times reports on pay disparity

JIDAN team members, Sue Burrell and Cyn Yamashiro were quoted in a [Los Angeles Times article](#) that examined disparities in pay between public defenders and private panel attorneys paid a flat per-case rate to represent juveniles in delinquency matters. The article published on June 14, 2010 highlighted work underway by PJDC through JIDAN.

Who will commit juvenile crimes?

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice is touting a new system of "predictive analytics" that would steer at-risk juveniles to specific treatment programs designed to keep them from becoming adult criminals, reports the Sun-Sentinel. The state's purchase of the \$15,000 software package from IBM has alarmed some juvenile-justice experts, who fear the program could unfairly label individuals and target minorities. The announcement from IBM about the sale to Florida of its predictive analytics software touched off a flurry of criticism in the blogosphere. "Classifying children this way is never a good thing," said Carrie Lee of Barry University's Juvenile Justice Center in Orlando.

"Ultimately, the goal should be about helping these kids." Mark Greenwald, chief of research and planning at the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, said all delinquent youths referred to the department are screened "to determine their risks and needs." More than 138,000 juveniles were referred to the department in the year ending in June. "This software will give us a better idea of delinquency patterns, and in the long term, what programs would benefit certain youth," Greenwald said. "It will help refine the decision-making process."

Gordon Bazemore, chairman of Florida Atlantic University's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, said the state's plan "seems benign. But you've always got to be cautious. You don't want to label someone for life."

[Sun Sentinal](#)

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improve the
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Juvenile Justice Update

The June/July 2010 issue of [Juvenile Justice Update](#) featured *The Legal Defense of Juveniles: Struggling But Pushing Forward*, by Ted Rubin. Rubin's article offered a look at current juvenile indigent defense problems and reform efforts from adolescent brain development and shackling, to high caseloads and systemic failures.

The article mentioned JIDAN's efforts in areas such as waiver of counsel, role of counsel, and juvenile defense as a specialized practice, as well as the collaborative work of the Regional Defender Centers.

Louisiana governor signs juvenile legislation

Governor Bobby Jindal signed House Bill 663 which amends, reenacts and enacts certain articles of the Children's Code relative to juvenile delinquency, indigency determination, reimbursement of legal fees, right to counsel, admissibility and voluntariness of a child's confession, determination of admissibility of a confession, and other related matters. Article 320 was amended to provide a presumption of indigence for purposes of appointing counsel. Article 321 remained substantively the same and requires reimbursement of legal fees in certain cases by parents with financial means. Article 809 provides an accused child with counsel at state expense and Article 881.2 outlines requirements for admissibility of a child's confession.

Also signed was House Bill 702 which amends, reenacts and enacts portions of the Children's Code by, among other things, adding language to current law mandating that youth be informed about sex offender registration and notification requirements in the event that they admit to or adjudicated delinquent for crimes requiring registration as a sex offender. To that effect, the law contains a form to be provided to youth to assist them in understanding the implications of sex offender registration. Other changes in the legislation include making firearm possession a delinquency offense and prohibiting the use of incriminating statements resulting from medical or mental health examinations in any future court proceedings, adjudication hearings or later criminal trials.

"In Louisiana's ongoing effort to reform juvenile justice, these bills address access to counsel and due process issues and are meant to be a layer of protection for children, who should not be navigating this system alone," says Clay

Walker, of the Louisiana Public Defender Board.

The bills went into effect August 15, 2010.

Florida Team member authors thorough examination of the factors that cause delinquent youths to commit crimes

Judge Irene Sullivan reveals the truth behind the myths of juvenile delinquency. In *Raised by the Court*, Sullivan takes readers behind the scenes to a segment of American society that routinely makes headlines, but in many ways remains invisible.

Raised by the Courts tells compelling stories of real children and families in court. "America locks up more young people—approximately one million teenagers annually—than any other nation in the world. Girls represent the fastest-growing percentage of our juvenile justice system, and a vastly disproportionate percentage of juvenile offenders are African American. "

Raised by the Courts will be available on Amazon in November, 2010.

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The JIDAN Journal reports on efforts by the Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network (JIDAN) to improve juvenile indigent defense practice. JIDAN is a project of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change. The National Juvenile Defender Center manages the JIDAN and publishes this newsletter. Please contact us at rbanks@njdc.info or 202-452-0010, ext. 107.

The submission deadline for the December edition of the JIDAN JOURNAL is November 30, 2010.