

## DMC eNews

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### Sherry Lupton Wins the Ruby M. Payne Cook Award

The Crispus Attucks Community Center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania awarded Sherry Lupton the Ruby Payne Cook Award for her outstanding work and commitment to reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.

Sherry is a supervisor for the Office of Juvenile Probation and Parole in Lancaster and she is an associate minister at the Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In the Office of Juvenile Probation and Parole, she supervises seven probation officers who work in middle, high and alternatives schools in the city of Lancaster. Additionally, she has led several community-based initiatives focused on tackling racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.



# ModelsforChange

Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice

NETWORK PARTNER 2013

## DMC Action Network

The DMC Action Network is a project of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's [Models for Change](#) initiative.

The Network aims to share knowledge and accelerate progress in the reduction of racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.

The Center for Children's Law and Policy, manages the DMC Action Network. For more information on the DMC Action Network, [visit our website](#).

Want to know what's going on in the other Action Networks? Read the latest newsletters on [Indigent Defense](#) and [Mental Health](#).

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## We Want Your Feedback!

We want to hear from you about how we can improve the DMC Action Network eNews.

Sherry started developing programs for youth of color at risk of entering the juvenile justice system in the 1990s, when she started the Rites of Passage mentoring program in partnership with Bright Side Baptist Church. Rites of Passage matched youth with mentors and activities that promoted college and job readiness. The program included workshops on applying to college, opportunities to shadow professionals, and visits to local colleges. Rites of Passage lasted for approximately ten years and almost all of the youth participants went on to attend college.

While the *Models for Change* initiative was active in Pennsylvania, Sherry led Lancaster County's DMC Committee, focusing on data-driven strategies to reduce racial and ethnic disparities, such as implementation and analysis of a detention risk assessment instrument in collaboration with the court. She is currently involved with two initiatives to help reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system. The annual DMC Youth Law Enforcement Forum (Forum) at Millersville University brings youth and law enforcement officers together to learn how to minimize the likelihood that young people will become juvenile justice-involved. Youth complete a questionnaire about their perceptions of the police, perform in vignettes about interacting with the police and participate in breakout sessions with law enforcement officials. For the last eight years, Millersville University has hosted the Forum and approximately 125 youth have participated. This year, with support from the Crispus Attucks Community Center, the Forum will be expanded to four schools in Lancaster County.

Sherry worked tirelessly to launch the DMC Interfaith Program in July of 2013. This program will match first-time nonviolent youth on probation with mentors from the faith community in Lancaster county. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lancaster County received funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to help coordinate the program and to provide training to volunteers working with the young people.

The Crispus Attucks Community Center named the Ruby M. Payne Cook Award after its first executive director in memory of her commitment and dedication to the Center and the African American community. Sherry's receipt of the Ruby M. Payne Cook Award is a wonderful acknowledgment of her hard work and dedication to the young people of Lancaster.

Congratulations!

Help us ensure that the eNews is a valuable resource for your work by [clicking here and completing a short online survey](#).

You can also contact us anytime with comments or suggestions at [knash@cclp.org](mailto:knash@cclp.org) or 202-637-0377 x106.

## Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program

The Center for Children's Law and Policy (CCLP) and the Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR) are partnering to offer the Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program (Certificate Program) on July 28-August 1, 2014 in Washington, DC. This is the second time they are offering the Certificate Program, which previous participants found to be informative, engaging and inspiring. "What a privilege to interact with professionals with a shared interest and passion for giving our juveniles every chance to succeed with their lives. The energy and passion in the room will serve me well on those days ahead when it feels like no one understands how important juvenile justice really is," said Andrew Smith, DMC Coordinator for New Hampshire and Certificate Program participant.



This four-and-a-half day training program will provide local jurisdictions with strategies to reduce racial and ethnic disparities at key decision points in the juvenile justice system. The Certificate Program is designed to help local jurisdictions that have identified problems with racial and ethnic disparities, but require assistance to develop and implement strategies that will lead to measurable results. The three primary goals of the Certificate Program are to help jurisdictions reduce:

1. The overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system;
2. The disparate treatment of youth of color as compared to white youth within the juvenile justice system; and

3. The unnecessary entry and movement deeper into the juvenile justice system for youth of color.

The curriculum focuses on using a data-driven approach to identify the most promising areas for reform at key decision points in the juvenile justice system. The training consists of a combination of lectures, interactive exercises, guided group discussions, and presentation of examples of interventions from jurisdictions across the country. Some of the topics that will be covered by the Certificate Program include:

- Arrest, referral and charging;
- Detention;
- Disposition
- Post-disposition and re-entry; and
- Leadership and messaging for cultural change.

As part of the Certificate Program, participants will develop and implement a Capstone Project during the twelve-month period following the training program. Each Capstone Project will focus on reducing disparities in a specific part of the juvenile justice system. Participants will receive technical assistance from CCLP and CJJR to design and implement their projects. Those who successfully complete their Capstone Projects will receive an Executive Certificate from Georgetown University.

Applications are due by **Friday, April 18, 2014**. You can learn more and download the application by [clicking here](#).

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## MacArthur Foundation Awards Cross-Action Network Grants

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (MacArthur Foundation) awarded Cross-Action Network funding to eleven *Models for Change Action* Network sites across the country. Funds will be distributed through the three Action Network Coordinating Agencies: the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice, the Center for Children's Law and Policy, and the National Juvenile Defender Center.

There were three grants awarded to implement reforms focused on reducing racial and ethnic disparities. The Montgomery County Collaborative Council (MCCC) in Maryland received a grant to create an objective diversion assessment tool. The MCCC proposed this project because youth of color in Montgomery County were 4-5 times

less likely to be diverted away from the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) than white youth. Montgomery County has two diversion programs -- Teen Court and Substance Abuse and Screening for Children and Adolescents. In 2012, 80% of all cases forwarded to DJS for failure to complete the diversion process were youth of color. MCCC hopes that successful implementation of this project will lead to more youth of color receiving an appropriate diversion placement.

The Rock County Human Services Department in Wisconsin received a grant to contract with an agency to develop a statewide Juvenile Justice Network Leadership and Learning Collaborative (JJNLLC) with a focus on organizing system reform efforts and sustaining successful outcomes. Wisconsin is an incubator of systems reform at the local level where collaboratives have achieved important results: (1) significant reduction in youth placed in juvenile correctional institutions; (2) the closure of two correctional institutions; (3) the closure of four secure detention facilities; (4) significant reductions in arrests; and (5) reduction in arrest disparities for youth of color. The JJNLLC will develop and publish a Wisconsin Juvenile Justice Practice Manual and it will serve as an ongoing unified entity to pursue funding for technical assistance or other activities that advance statewide juvenile justice system reform efforts.

The Center for Children's Advocacy in Connecticut and the Defender Association of Philadelphia received a grant to implement the Pennsylvania DMC Youth-Law Enforcement Training Curriculum in Connecticut. They will expand the curriculum to include training on post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic stress and other mental health issues, and the cultural implications for youth of color during law enforcement interactions. The goal of this project is to improve law enforcement's understanding of adolescent brain development, mental health needs, and the cultural implications for youth of color during law enforcement interactions.

The Cross-Action Network Awards are part of the MacArthur Foundation's *Models for Change* Legacy Phase, which seeks to secure and sustain progress in jurisdictions where innovations and reforms developed by the Action Networks have been successfully implemented. "We want to ensure that the exemplary work of the Action Networks will grow and spread across the country," says Laurie Garduque, MacArthur's Director of Justice Reform. "These awards will allow the Action Network sites and states to reach beyond their original goals and share their achievements, facilitating reform on a national stage." Although many of these jurisdictions have secured funding to sustain their programs or initiatives, they frequently lack resources to

support activities that could help raise awareness about juvenile justice reform, document successful outcomes, and support the replication of their innovations in other sites.

Congratulations to all of the grantees.

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### New Webinar: Facilitating Access to Health Care Coverage for Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth

On Wednesday, March 25, 2014, join the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) for an upcoming webinar, supported by the MacArthur Foundation's *Models for Change* initiative, on state approaches to providing seamless health care coverage for juvenile justice-involved youth. Expert speakers from NASHP will provide an overview of successful strategies that states are using to facilitate health care coverage for this population, and a speaker from the state of Oregon will discuss the state's integrated approach to providing Medicaid coverage to juvenile justice-involved youth. These strategies are also highlighted in NASHP's new publication, [\*Facilitating Access to Health Care Coverage for Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth\*](#).

Speakers:

- Laurie R. Garduque, Director, Justice Reform, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- Moderator: Diane Justice, Senior Fellow, National Academy for State Health Policy
- Philip Cox, Assistant Director, Community Services, Oregon Youth Authority
- Sarabeth Zemel, Program Manager, National Academy for State Health Policy

The webinar will be held on **Tuesday, March 25, 2014**, from **3:00 pm to 4:00 pm EST**. [Please click here to register](#).

If you have any questions regarding this webinar, please contact Kimm Mooney at [kmooney@nashp.org](mailto:kmooney@nashp.org).

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National Juvenile Justice Network -- Youth Justice Institute

The National Juvenile Justice Network's [Leadership Institute](#) is



**looking for ten great reformers!** Picture somebody in your mind -- someone you know -- who wants to set the juvenile justice world on fire. Someone who's fed up with seeing kids get kicked out of school for minor misbehavior, locked up without due process, or any other unjust, unfair things that can blight young people's lives.

You can see this person in your mind's eye, right? You're picturing someone who stands up, speaks out, and can work with others to reform what's not working. A person, in other words, who is ready to take the next step to grow as a leader.

Chances are this army-of-one you're picturing in your mind is ready to apply to the **Youth Justice Leadership Institute**, a robust, year-long fellowship program run by the National Juvenile Justice Network that focuses on cultivating and supporting professionals of color. NJJN's goal is to create the foundation for a more effective juvenile justice reform movement by developing a strong base of advocates and organizers who reflect the communities most affected by juvenile justice system practices and policies.

By the way, your force-of-nature will not need to quit his or her job. It does mean that he or she will join a hand-picked group of 10 fellows assembled from all over the country to develop their skills as advocates and learn about leadership, juvenile justice system policies and practices, and theories of change.

**Applications are due April 7, 2014.**

Anyone who wants to apply for the Institute can:

- Learn more about the National Juvenile Justice Institute's Youth Justice Institute by clicking [here](#);
- Watch NJJN's [video](#) and [download the application packet now](#); or
- Contact the Institute's coordinator, Diana Onley-Campbell, at [diana@juvjustice.org](mailto:diana@juvjustice.org).

The Youth Justice Leadership Institute is supported by generous grants from the Public Welfare Foundation, Tow Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

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## National League of Cities and *Models for Change*: RFP for City Leaders

Despite substantial decreases in juvenile crime rates during the past decade, the nation's juvenile justice systems remain in great need of fundamental reforms. Mayors and other city officials have unique opportunities to drive improvements in their local juvenile justice systems. Municipal leaders and their community-based and faith-based partners can explore new roles and resources in collaboration with the courts and juvenile probation. City agencies may also benefit financially from adopting promising juvenile justice reinvestment strategies.

As part of an 18-month strategic partnership initiative with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the National League of Cities (NLC) Institute for Youth, Education, and Families will host a *Municipal Leadership for Juvenile Justice Reform* Leadership Academy on **June 11-13, 2014**. This convening will provide city officials with proven practices developed through *Models for Change* and innovative ideas for how they can take up leadership roles in juvenile justice reform. Teams will receive access to national experts, promising practice examples, peer sharing, and local action planning.

Following the Leadership Academy, NLC will invite participating cities to join a new NLC Juvenile Justice Peer Learning Network, which will provide ongoing opportunities for city leaders to learn and receive support from nationally-recognized experts in the field and from peers in other cities.

NLC will select teams from up to 15 cities to attend the leadership academy. Each city may nominate a team of two or three representatives that must include at least one of the following individuals: the Mayor, a city council member, or a senior representative of the Mayor's or City Manager's office. Other team members may include, but are not limited to: senior representatives of city agencies including police departments; juvenile court officials including detention or probation officials, prosecutors, public defenders or judges; and community-based service providers implementing programs for youth at-risk for involvement or involved in the juvenile justice system.

The deadline to apply is **Friday, April 4, 2014** and NLC will announce all selections by **Friday, April 11, 2014**. Please click on this link for more information. For questions about the application materials or the leadership academy, please contact Laura Furr at [furr@nlc.org](mailto:furr@nlc.org) or (202) 626-3072.



## Publications from *Models for Change*

- [Better Solutions for Youth with Mental Health Needs in the Juvenile Justice System](#) is a white paper written by the Mental Health and Juvenile Justice Collaborative for Change. This document explores the prevalence of mental health conditions among juvenile justice-involved youth and suggests using new tools to respond to their needs. For example, there are new police-based diversion models available for working with youth with behavioral health conditions. To access this white paper, please [click here](#).
- [Improving Diversion Policies and Programs for Justice-Involved Youth with Co-occurring Mental Health and Substance Abuse Use Disorders](#) is a report issued by the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice and the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. that discusses the results of an initiative by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrative (SAMHSA) and the MacArthur Foundation. This initiative integrates SAMHSA's Policy Academy mechanism with the Foundation's Action Network strategy to develop and disseminate evidence-based strategies to divert youth with behavioral health conditions away from the juvenile justice system. [Click here](#) to learn how eight states improved policies and programs and increased the coordination of service provision in order to achieve better outcomes for youth.

## Resources About Status Offenders

- The Texas Public Policy Foundation recently released the report [Kids Doing Time for What's Not a Crime: The Over-Incarceration of Status Offenders](#). This report analyzes federal data about status offenders in confinement from 2001 to 2011. For example, between 2001 and 2011, the number of status offenders in confinement decreased by 52 percent. However, not all findings are encouraging as status offenders accounted for 4% of all youth in residential placement in 2001 and 2011. The report also recommends that families or public systems like education, mental health or child welfare should be the first line of defense for helping status offenders instead of the juvenile

justice system. [Click here to download the report.](#)

- [Representing Status Offenders](#), is a comprehensive book published by the American Bar Association that provides lawyers a roadmap to representing status offenders. Shay Bilchik and Erik Pinherio provide guidance on how to use federal law to advocate for status offense clients. Clair Shubik explores status offender behaviors within the broader context of adolescent development. Martha Stone and Hannah Benton offer tips on accessing early intervention and diversion services for status offenders. Tobie J. Smith explains the status offense court process and outlines strategies that attorneys can use at trial. Joseph B. Tulman's chapter provides guidance on representing status offenders with special education needs. Jana Heyd and Casey Trupin provide strategies for representing dual system status offenders. [You can download the entire book by clicking here.](#)
- The Coalition for Juvenile Justice issued the report, [National Standards for Youth Charged with Status Offenses](#). The standards are organized into four sections: Principles for Responding to Status Offenses, Efforts to Avoid Court Involvement, Efforts to Limit Court Involvement, and Recommendations for Policy and Legislative Implementation. Some standards focus on specific stakeholders in the juvenile justice system such as lawyers, law enforcement officials, judges, parents and youth. [Click here to access the National Standards.](#)
- The Vera Institute of Justice released [From Courts to Communities: The Right Response to Truancy, Running Away, and Other Status Offenses](#). This report discusses why courts are poorly situated to handle status offense cases. Additionally, the report describes the five hallmarks of an effective community-based system: diversion from court, an immediate response, a triage process, services that are accessible and effective, and internal assessment. [Click here to download the report.](#)
- [Status Offenses and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act: The Exception that Swallowed the Rule](#), is a law review article written by Patricia J. Arthur and Regina Wright that explores how to minimize the number of status offenders that end up in detention. This article explains how the valid court order exception to the deinstitutionalization of status offenders requirement in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act led to the doubling of the number of court-petitioned status

offense cases between 1984 and 2004. The article also discusses effective alternatives to detention for status offenders like therapeutic foster care, respite care and temporary crisis shelters. [Download the article by clicking here.](#)

- The American Bar Association's Center for Children and the Law produced a series of short videos that describe some of the unique problems facing status offenders. One of the videos, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), features Mark Soler, executive director of the Center for Children's Law and Policy. In this video, the speakers discuss how the valid court order exception in the JJDP has swallowed the core requirement of deinstitutionalizing status offenders. The other videos available for viewing are: Who Are Status Offenders?, Multi-System Involvement, Accessing Services, and Special Education Advocacy. [Click here to watch the videos.](#)

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### The Latest Information on Juvenile Justice and Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities

- President Barack H. Obama recently announced the launch of the [My Brother's Keeper](#) (MBK) initiative, a new public-private partnership targeted at helping boys and young men of color succeed. The MBK initiative will disseminate information about what works to connect boys and young men of color to mentoring, support networks and the skills they need to secure employment or attend college. As part of the initiative, President Obama established an interagency task force that will focus on the impact of Federal policies, regulations, and programs of general applicability on boys and young men of color. [To learn more about My Brother's Keeper initiative, click here.](#)
- Discipline Disparities: A Research-to-Practice Collaborative, recently released three briefing papers on disparities in school discipline. [Discipline Disparities Series: Overview](#), describes the disparate application of exclusionary school discipline policies on African-American boys; students identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender; and students who receive special education services. [How Educators Can Eradicate Disparities in School Discipline: A Briefing Paper on School-Based Interventions](#) discusses how disparities in discipline are often greatest where the categories of infractions are the most subjective. [Eliminating Excessive and Unfair Exclusionary](#)

[Discipline in Schools: Policy Recommendations for Reducing Disparities](#) provides information about several effective alternatives to school suspension such as implementing school-wide positive behavior interventions and supports, teacher training focused in student engagement and district-wide investments in social and emotional learning strategies. [New and Developing Research on Disparities in Discipline](#) discusses the lack of research about the extent of, and reasons for, exclusionary discipline policies for Native Americans and the impact of increased law enforcement and security technologies in schools on disciplinary disparities. [You can access all of the briefing papers by clicking here.](#)

- [Delays in Youth Justice](#), a bulletin issued by the National Institute for Justice and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, examines case management strategies employed in three Midwestern courts to control youth justice delays. The researchers found that two themes emerged from their review: (1) success in addressing court delay requires leadership that is committed to case management and (2) communication among court staff is key to a well-functioning case management system. [To learn more click here.](#)
- The bulletin, [Young Offenders: What Happens and What Should Happen](#), makes recommendations for policymakers concerning two special populations: (1) youth ages 15 to 17 who may be transitioning from the juvenile justice system to the criminal justice system and (2) young adults ages 18 to 24 who are already involved in the criminal justice system. This bulletin, produced by the National Institute for Justice and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, discusses research on adolescent brain development and recommends that policymakers consider raising the minimum age for criminal court to 21 or 24. [Click here to download the bulletin.](#)
- The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention recently released, [Juvenile Arrests 2011](#). According to this publication, in 2011, juvenile violent crime arrests reached the lowest point in the last 32 years and 15% less than the low point in 1984. Fifty-one percent of all juvenile arrests for violent crime involved black youth. You can read more about the juvenile arrest statistics for 2011 by [clicking here.](#)
- [The Mentoring Effect: Young People's Perspective on the Outcomes and Availability of Mentoring](#) is a report commissioned by MENTOR: The National Mentoring

Partnership and produced by Civic Enterprises and Hart Research Associates. This report shares the findings from the first national survey of youth and young adults' perspective on mentoring. One finding from the survey was that at-risk youth with mentors were more likely to report participating in more sports or other extracurricular activities. [Click here to download the report.](#)

- The Sentencing Project released [Drug-Free Zone Laws: An Overview of State Policies](#). This policy brief explores impact of the drug free zone laws in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Drug free zone laws are supposed to protect children from the dangers of drug trafficking near schools, but these laws disproportionately impact people of color and economically disadvantaged citizens. In recent years, seven states reformed their drug-free zone laws. [You can access the policy brief by clicking here.](#)

The *DMC eNews* reports on efforts to reduce disproportionate minority contact in juvenile justice systems in the [DMC Action Network](#). The Center for Children's Law and Policy manages the DMC Action Network. For a PDF version of this newsletter, [click here](#). You can also contact us anytime with comments or suggestions at [knash@cclp.org](mailto:knash@cclp.org) or 202-637-0377 x106.