

## **Title: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Juvenile Justice Practitioner**

The juvenile justice system is well into its second century and the knowledge, skills, and strategies required of practitioners in the field have evolved over time. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is faster and more complex than previous centuries. Information is abundant and more accessible than ever before. The capacity to communicate is equally unprecedented; computers, cell phones, the internet, and social media have accelerated the world and at the same time virtually shrinking it. While the youths, families, communities, and victims served by the juvenile justice system seem to have the same issues, strengths, and deficits as previous, the science behind the strategies and services provided by the juvenile justice system are increasingly evidence-based and more effective than ever before. This workshop will introduce a foundational set of skills, practices, understanding, and tools allowing juvenile justice practitioners to make the best use of what the 21<sup>st</sup> century has to offer.

1. **Management and Practices Issues:** While juvenile justice entities function within a framework of statutes, policies and practices were built over the course of several years, the core concepts of effective juvenile justice management and practice remain the same. The foundational components that are critical include: a strong mission, clearly articulated goals, a solid organizational structure, sound fiscal and operational practices, and well qualified and trained staff. This workshop will address a range of 21<sup>st</sup> century management practices: program planning and implementation, best practices related to information gathering/sharing technologies, and evidence-based strategies that impact performance measurement, client outcomes, and the ability of juvenile justice professionals to be effective. These practices serve not only as a foundational set of skills for management but also enhance public safety with a focus on quality community supervision.
2. **Effective Case Planning:** The case plan serves as the blueprint for matching youth to appropriate programs and monitoring both completion of intervention and treatment as well as court-ordered supervision requirement. Faculty in this workshop will discuss the following: The importance of case planning, the principles of effective interventions, which interventions are most effective and why, and how to individualize case plans. They will also outline processes and practices for family engagement and the review of case plans to maximize their impact.
3. **Culturally Competent Practices:** To be effective, juvenile justice practitioners must be aware of the racial, ethnic, cultural systemic disparities that exist, and address the individual risks, needs, and characteristics of the youth and their families. Because the communities served by juvenile justice professionals have always been culturally diverse and are becoming increasingly diverse, the 21<sup>st</sup> century juvenile justice professional must have the ability to understand and embrace cultural differences in order to serve diverse clients effectively and address racial effectively and address racial and ethnic disparities within the juvenile justice system. This workshop will address culturally competent practices in juvenile justice, including the intersectionality of racial, ethnic, gender. Sexual orientation (LGBT issues), socio-economic factors. Physical and emotional challenges, and intellectual disabilities faced in the juvenile justice system.
4. **Data Driven Decision Making:** Data Driven Decision Making is an approach that values decisions that can be backed up with "RELIABLE" data. These techniques will provide examples of data-driven decision making in Juvenile Justice as well as providing updated strategies for Juvenile Justice Professionals to collect, process, and apply data to a wide variety of decisions which includes: administration and planning, case planning, measuring performance, continuous quality assurance, funding, and local government and political buy-in.