



# DCJS/news

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Volume 2/01 January 2020

## DCJS Professional Development Day

On September 25, 2019, DCJS hosted an agency-wide Professional Development Day. The day was packed full of learning and activities, with a focus on communication; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and effective leadership. Larry Moser with Moser Training Solutions, LLC, presented the DISC workplace profile. Employees had the opportunity to complete an online questionnaire prior to the training and received a personalized report of their *DISC Style*. Individuals were placed into groups according to their specific style: **D**ominance, **I**nfluence, **S**teadiness, and **C**onscientiousness. Employees were able to discuss their commonalities and see the similarities in other groups. This gave everyone an opportunity to learn how to better connect with colleagues by understanding their communication style.



Larry Moser, Moser Training Solutions, LLC

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Dr. Tiffany Jana, the founder of TMI Consulting, was the guest speaker. Her presentation focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion. She is the co-author of "Overcoming Bias:

Building Authentic Relationship Across Differences, Erasing Institutional Bias: How to Create Systemic Change for Organizational Inclusion", and the second edition of the "B Corp Handbook". Dr. Jana spoke about unconscious, individual, and systemic bias in the workplace. DCJS plans to host follow up workshops from TMI Consulting to continue the discussion of identifying and overcoming bias in the workplace.



Dr. Tiffany Jana, TMI Consulting



Retired Chief Rodney Monroe, former Chief of Police for the City of Richmond

The final presenter of the day was retired Chief Rodney Monroe, the former Chief of Police for the City of Richmond. He did an excellent presentation on leadership and resiliency. The presentation provided all in attendance with great insight of what it takes to be an effective leader. Chief Monroe is recognized as an innovator and practitioner of community policing.

## New Security Requirements at the Washington Building



**Expect the Check**  
Identity Verified. Access Granted.

In October, 2019, the new "Expect the Check" enhanced ID verification protocols took effect in state facilities run by the Department of General Services' facilities in and around Capitol Square, including the offices of DCJS in the Washington Building. The new requirements include visible ID badges on all state employees and contractors, defined hours of access to buildings, and identified staff who are "Visitor Verification Point of Contacts" that will escort all visitors within the building.

All visitors must sign in at the main security desk. Visitor hours will be 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. For scheduled visits, the security officer will contact the visitor's point of contact, who must come to the security desk to receive the guest, escort them at all times, and sign them out upon departure.

Additional details may be found at <https://dgs.virginia.gov/facilities-management/dgs-facilities-information/expect-the-check/>



## DCJS Partners with VALEAC for 2019 Annual Conference

The Virginia Law Enforcement Coalition (VALEAC) held its 19th Annual Accreditation Conference, from October 8–10, 2019, at the Double Tree by Hilton, in Charlottesville, Virginia. The conference is held annually to provide initial training and updates to those involved in the accreditation process for law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth.



This event provided training opportunities in relevant topics including recent legal updates, human trafficking enforcement initiatives, and other current “hotbed” topics. This year, participants were able to attend several sessions of Civilian Response and Casualty

*Civilian Response and Casualty Care Course (CRCC) and ALERRT Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training at the conference.*

Care Course (CRCC) and ALERRT Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) trainings, taught by DCJS Instructors and staff. The courses were well received by participants, and are expected to be included in future conferences.

During the conference the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission held its quarterly meeting. The following agencies received reaccreditation status:



- Chesterfield County Police Department (Sixth Award)
- King George County Sheriff’s Office (Fifth Award)
- York-Poquoson County Sheriff’s Office (Fifth Award)
- Clarke County Sheriff’s Office (Third Award)
- Henry County Sheriff’s Office (Third Award)

- The College of William and Mary Police Department received the agency’s Initial Award.

Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Brian Moran spoke of the importance of the program and the arduous process which involves many moving parts which include bringing the administrative, operational, training, and personnel policies and practices of the department into compliance with the 190 professional standards of the Commission. Secretary Moran thanked the award recipients for their commitment to law enforcement excellence and then made presentations to new Assessors, Senior Assessors, and Master Assessors.



*Chief Deputy Travis Sumption, Clarke County Sheriff’s Office received the 2019 Commissioners Award for Assessor of the Year.*

Mr. Derrick Mays, DCJS Accreditation Program Manager, was presented with an Award of Excellence by VALEAC and VLEPSC for his dedication to the advancement of the accreditation program throughout the Commonwealth.



*Derrick Mays of DCJS received an Award of Excellence from VALEAC and VLEPSC.*

### Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program (COAP)

In 2017, Virginia was awarded a Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program (COAP) Category 4: Statewide Planning, Coordination and Implementation Grant to accomplish two Goals:

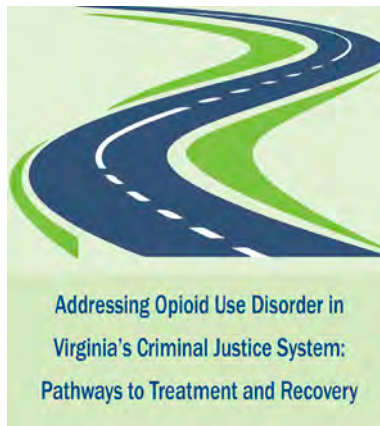
Goal One: Develop a statewide plan to respond to the needs of individuals with Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) in the Criminal Justice System; and

Goal Two: Expand the use of alternatives to incarceration to engage individuals in treatment and recovery, focusing on best practice models.

The Statewide Plan was developed after an analysis of findings from five regional Opioid Focused workshops. Based on the Sequential Intercept Model, each regional workshop identified gaps and opportunities, as well as priority areas of concern for each region. Approximately 150 individuals from across the Commonwealth participated in a workshop and participants included stakeholders representing local government agencies, behavioral health/substance use treatment providers, community services providers, criminal justice, courts, peer/recovery advocates, and others. Three overarching themes echoed across all five regions:

1. There is an immediate need for evidenced based treatment options for individuals with opioid use disorders who are involved in the criminal justice system;
2. There is an immediate need for more qualified staff to provide direct services to those in need of treatment in the criminal justice system; and
3. There is an immediate need for additional funding to support treatment and recovery for individuals who are indigent and uninsured.

It was also clear throughout the Commonwealth that some of the greatest need for services and supports existed across the last three intercepts of the Criminal Justice System: Intercept 3 (Jails/Prison, Courts), Intercept 4 (Re-Entry From Jails/State Prison), and Intercept 5 (Community Corrections and Community Support). All five regions also expressed the desire for more education around the science of addiction and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), access to existing programs and resources, and opportunities to build bridges, learn from each other, and strengthen state and local networks.



In response, a Statewide Training was held in Virginia Beach, Virginia, targeting individuals and stakeholders working to address opioid use disorders across the criminal justice system. The Training, "Addressing Opioid Use Disorder in Virginia's Criminal Justice System: Pathways to Treatment and Recovery" provided information on the Science of Addiction, MAT, and other Evidence Based Programs and approaches focusing on Intercepts 3, 4, & 5 of the criminal justice

system. Nearly 250 participants representing a broad range of stakeholder groups were in attendance. Participants included SUD service providers, corrections (prisons & jails), probation, criminal justice, peer support/recovery, and others.

Following the event, post evaluation results were overwhelmingly positive. Nearly 100% of respondents indicated they either *agreed* or *strongly agreed* when asked if the training met their expectations, if they could apply the knowledge learned, if their knowledge of Evidence Based Programs had increased, and if they intended to build relationships with others to address the needs of individuals with OUD in the criminal justice system.

#### Grant Funds Awarded

An RFP was released and the following programs were awarded grant funds to support programs targeting intercepts 3, 4, and 5. DCJS and DBHDS will be working alongside these programs, and others, to support the critical work taking place across the Commonwealth to address the needs of individuals with opioid use disorder in our criminal justice system.

- Alleghany Highlands CSB
- Loudoun County Community Corrections
- Mount Rogers CSB
- Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA)

**For more information about the COAP Program, please contact:**

**Ms. Leslie Egen, MPA** – DCJS Criminal Justice Policy Analyst, at [leslie.egen@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:leslie.egen@dcjs.virginia.gov)



## Reaping the Rewards of Mentorship – The Virginia Management Fellows (VMF) Program

Rob Mason, Manager for Customer Service and Criminal History in the DCJS Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services is one of ten mentors in the Commonwealth of Virginia to participate in the Governor's initiative called The Virginia Management Fellows (VMF) Program. He was nominated for the position in January 2017. The program is an initiative of the Commonwealth of Virginia developed with Virginia Tech to meet the state's needs for future leaders. The First Cohort of Virginia Management Fellows began in January 2018 and finished their rotations in January 2020. This program is comprehensive because it not only provides real world work experience for the Fellows, but it requires attendance at seminars; "lunch and learns"; self-study reading assignments; identification and solutions of real issues within their assigned agency; and the opportunity to design, fund, and implement a long-term service learning project of community benefit.

During his mentorship to the program, Rob has had the pleasure of serving on an advisory committee with other mentors and the program administrators. This committee has helped steer and shape the future of this initial cohort and future ones as well by implementing strategies designed to increase the employment opportunities for the Fellows. The hope is that by the end of the program, at least seven of the ten Fellows in this First Cohort are employed with the Commonwealth. DCJS was honored to have had three of these Fellows do a rotation at the agency.



*Conor O'Donnell*

Conor O'Donnell provided assistance in the area of customer service. His challenge was to evaluate the current way of doing things, and suggest how they could be done better to improve the overall customer service experience. One project he focused on was the Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services section of

the DCJS website. It was outdated and hard to navigate and became his main priority and his "real agency problem" to solve. Rob stated that "mentoring Conor was easy and rewarding because he is a great listener and strives for

excellence. Before he left, a new and improved section of the website that greatly improved the customer's experience was delivered to our constituents. Conor rotated to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for his next eight-month assignment, but we still keep in touch and see each other at VMF learning sessions." Conor is presently working as a Legislative Aide for Delegate Keam from Fairfax/Vienna for this General Assembly session.



*Jacoby Harper*

Jacoby Harper was assigned to the Division of Licensure and Regulatory Services. He also worked in the Financial Services section where he was instrumental in gathering data and presenting findings for ARMICS, an audit tool aimed at strengthening the agency's internal control processes, and in the Grants Management section

where he assisted with various components of the grant process. Jacoby is eager to learn and loves to work. He and Rob continue to meet routinely to discuss life and work, and Rob shares success strategies for both. Jacoby is currently working full-time at the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.



*Jordan Burns*

Jordan Burns arrived at DCJS and was asked to look at all aspects of Finance and Administration including Procurement, the Forfeited Asset Sharing Program (FASP), and budget. He assisted the FASP with testing and implementing a new online system for user and administrative use. Jordan continually made helpful suggestions and was supportive,

innovative and instrumental in helping Finance to quickly develop a cross walk between the old budget structure and the new. Jordan is now employed full-time with the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy in the Office of Planning and Policy.

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For more information about the Virginia Management Fellows program, go to: <https://vmf.spia.vt.edu>

### 2019 National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions

The 2019 National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions was held on November 4–6, 2019, in Richmond, Virginia. Governor Ralph Northam and Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Brian Moran opened the conference and set the stage for nationally renowned subject matter experts in the field of threat assessment including Kristina Anderson, Virginia Tech survivor and founder of the Koshka Foundation for Safe Schools, and Lina Alathari, Chief of the National Threat Assessment Center. Secretary of Education Atif Qarni and Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. James Lane offered remarks, followed by a presentation on the findings of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Commission. The conference closed with a discussion of community-based, multi-disciplinary threat assessment teams and an in-depth look at the prosecution of the Aurora, Colorado mass shooting.

During the conference, participants had the opportunity to learn and network alongside colleagues from Virginia and 34 other states, D.C., Guam, and Australia, and benefited greatly from doing so, as evidenced by a sampling of the evaluation comments:

*"This was a very timely, needed and informative conference. I was able to network and make connections that will be mutually beneficial...even an international connection."*



Presenter Special Agent John Wyman, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Behavioral Analysis Unit.

*"Although the material was extremely "heavy", the speakers were excellent and delivered a constructive message. I came away understanding what we are doing well at our university and what we need to improve upon. I also have a broader understanding and perspective of the threat assessment process."*

*"The Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness greatly appreciates the high level of professionalism displayed throughout the conference!"*

*"This truly is the best organized, most powerful conference I have ever attended in over 30 years."*

## Upcoming VCSCS Conferences

### Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum

The 2020 Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum will be held March 9–12, 2020, in Hampton, Virginia. The forum brings together experts in the field of violence prevention, campus sexual assault, the Clery Act, Title IX, threat assessment, intimate partner violence, stalking, and mental health to discuss the latest research, policies, legal challenges, interdisciplinary cooperation, and reporting issues. Structured to encourage a cross-disciplinary approach to these complex campus and community public health issues, attendees have significant opportunities to share expertise and resources with colleagues from across the country.

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Virginia School Safety Training Forum

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Virginia's School Safety Training Forum. The 2020 School Safety Training Forum will be held July 28–30, 2020, in Hampton, Virginia. The event features engaging keynote speakers and useful workshops for as many as 1000 participants in the fields of law enforcement, school security, PreK-12 administration and counseling, and others with an interest in school safety. Participants hear from local, state, and national experts on a multitude of topics related to school safety including youth drug abuse trends and prevention, mental health and wellness, legal issues that impact schools, developing a positive school climate, and emergency planning.

## Grants

### Grants Management Section Overview

The Grants Management section at DCJS is the State Administering Agent (SAA) for the Commonwealth of Virginia. This section distributes both federal and state funding to localities, state agencies, and nonprofit organizations in the areas of Adult Services/Corrections, Juvenile Justice, Victims Services, and Law Enforcement. This "Team of 10," performs a thorough evaluation and extensive review of all submitted grant applications for over 24 active programs, provides documents to the Grants Committee and Criminal Justice Services Board, disseminates formal award packages, responds directly to subgrantee inquiries, process all voucher requests and administrative data, and ensures grantee compliance.

In Fiscal Year 2019, DCJS awarded over \$43 million in federal funds, over \$36 million in general funds, and over \$9 million in special funds to support initiatives across the Commonwealth of Virginia. The funding, from federal and state sources supported over 750 grants.

DCJS typically publishes solicitations to the DCJS website twice a year; spring and fall. The Fall 2019 awards season produced a total of 209 awards. Specifically, \$8.79 million was awarded to support law enforcement and community-based criminal justice programs. DCJS awarded \$719,230 to four localities to continue combating the opioid crisis in Virginia. Additionally, \$3,769,370 in federal funds were awarded from the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) program to support many equipment needs and initiatives.

For more information on the Grants Administration, visit the DCJS website at [www.dcjs.virginia.gov/grants](http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/grants).

### New Section Members



**Kimberly Owens-Burroughs** is a Grant Support Specialist and receives and reviews incoming subgrant materials for accuracy, completeness and compliance with policy and procedure guidelines. She

assists in managing the agency's grant compliance activities. Issues grant awards and compliance materials, approves Budget Amendment Requests, and applies knowledge of accounting functions and principles to process account payables and account receivables financial transactions in the Cardinal system. She provides technical assistance and responds to general grants administration questions for the following programs: Court Appointed Special Advocate, Violence Against Women's Act, Domestic Violence Victims Fund, Victim Witness, Victim Witness General Fund, Sexual Assault Services Program, Victim Services Grant Program, and School-based Victim Services.



**Carter "Will" Abbott** is the Grant Fiscal Monitor. He assists with monitoring, auditing, and reviewing agency grants to determine if program requirements are in compliance with federal and state policies and

regulations. He also works with grantees to ensure that they are in compliance with all fiscal requirements of their awards.

#### *Upcoming Grant Opportunities:*

**Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for Prisoners Medication-Assisted Treatment FY 2021**

Application Due: ..... Friday, March 6, 2020 by 5:00 pm

**2020 Juvenile Justice System Improvement Title II Grant**

Application Due: ..... Monday, March 9, 2020 by 5:00 pm

**(FY 2021) Comprehensive Community Corrections Act (CCCA) and Pretrial**

Application Due: ..... Friday, March 13, 2020 by 5:00 pm



The Victims Services Grant Monitoring Team is always dedicated to providing an integrated and strategic approach to training and technical assistance. With the start of a new fiscal year, they worked hard to assist in the budget approval process and to help acclimate new sub-recipients to agency policies, federal regulations, and grant guidelines. DCJS, as the awarding agency, ensured that all requests were allowable, reasonable, and essential for the provision of direct services to victims of crime.

In response to feedback from the field, the team created a Grant Development Resource page on the DCJS website that includes information on all Victims Services grants, a monitor assignment list, links to federal financial resources (such as the VOCA Rule and DOJ Financial Guide), and sample forms to assist in preparing for on-site monitoring. Future funding requires DCJS to demonstrate that it is addressing crime within communities and providing services to crime victims and these resources will assist in that effort. For more information on Victims Services grants, guidelines, or additional resources please visit: [www.dcjs.virginia.gov/victims-services/grants](http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/victims-services/grants).

The Victims Services Grant Monitoring Team recently completed the award process for two grants through the Federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding source: STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) and SASP (Sexual Assault Services Program). The STOP grant program is known as VSTOP in Virginia and is guided by the VSTOP State Planning Team. Approximately \$3.5 million is allocated to Virginia each year through a formula grant from the Office on Violence Against Women at the U.S. Department of Justice. These funds enable DCJS to fund over 100 projects throughout Virginia to address issues of domestic and sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking. The second year of the VSTOP three-year grant cycle began January 1, 2020, and all currently funded programs will be level-funded. VSTOP-funded programs should have received grant award packages and are encouraged to carefully review the special conditions.

Funding through SASP supports rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide core services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault. Through the most recent SASP grant process, DCJS awarded nearly \$475,000 to 19 sexual assault services programs.

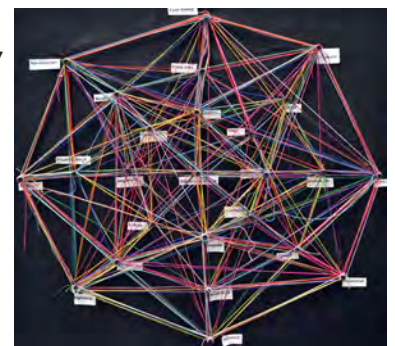
The DCJS Victims Services team continues to help coordinate training and technical assistance efforts offered to sexual and domestic violence agencies (SDVA) through a statewide initiative called the Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative (UPLC). The UPLC is in its 16th month, and is staffed and coordinated by DCJS, the Virginia Department of Social Services, and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance. There are 20 SDVA that have volunteered to be a part of this project through which they examine current service delivery; identify service gaps related to underserved, inadequately served, and unserved victims; and develop and implement solutions to improve assistance to these communities. These agencies will complete the UPLC project in the spring, and then the UPLC host agencies will start anew with another cohort of SDVA participants.

## #VBSTRONG

Victims Services' Violence Against Women Act Program Administrator, Julia Fuller-Wilson, continues to coordinate the Virginia Crisis Response Team (CRT) and their response to the May mass shooting in Virginia Beach. As of October 31, 2019, the total Virginia Beach response by the CRT has included 55 crisis responders and 2,112 direct service response hours. At the end of October, the Virginia Beach Strong Resiliency Center opened, so our state crisis response efforts will gradually be reduced. DCJS is proud of the Virginia CRT and the amazing job they've done to assist the Virginia Beach community.

### During the **"Envision: Creating Paths of Resiliency for Underserved Domestic Violence Survivors"**

conference, attendees were able to participate in an interactive art project, the Envision Board. The board had 20 pegs with personal traits and characteristics such as brave, introvert, optimist, urban, and stoic. The participants were asked to choose a color of thread to represent them on the board. They then wrapped the thread around all the pegs with descriptors that represented them as an individual. The resulting art work represents the shared intersections of our attendees, and highlights the beauty in our differences.



Envision Board

## Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Often times we hear the term racial and ethnic disparities specifically in the context of reducing or eliminating the disparities in our juvenile justice system. These disparities exist when members of a racial or ethnic group are represented at each decision point in greater proportion than one would expect based on the proportion in the population that they represent. These disparities show up at each key decision point, whether it is the decision to file charges against a child or in the courtroom at arraignment. Over the years, there have been major efforts to address these disparities, with the implementation of standardized risk assessments, the reduction of over reliance on secure detention and creating more opportunities for diversion services statewide. Nevertheless, with all the system improvements, we still have youth of color overly represented at each key decision point. Untangling these reasons behind the disparities is an important part of the work we do at DCJS. Exploring these disparities calls for courageous conversations among ourselves and with our system partners, examining structural racism and tackling implicit bias.

Youth of color are overrepresented at nearly every point of contact with the juvenile justice system—and the finding is disturbingly persistent over time. Youth of color are more likely to be incarcerated and to serve more time than white youth, even when they are charged with the same category of offense. Whether these stark differences are the result of biases in decision-making, or social or economic differences that are merely correlated with race and ethnicity, they are all unacceptable.

The federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act has required states to assess whether disproportionality exists at key decision points in the juvenile justice system, and where it is found to exist, take steps to reduce it. Historically referred to as Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 (JJRA), which reauthorized the JJDP Act, amended the language and now requires states to reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED).

The reauthorization provides long-awaited updates to the Act and its core protections, and reflects the new knowledge that has developed in the field. The JJRA indicates that nationwide youth of color are disproportionately over-represented and subject to more punitive sanctions than similarly charged or situated white youth at all levels of the juvenile justice system.

The JJDP Act defines “racial and ethnic disparities” as “minority youth populations [being] involved at a decision point in the juvenile justice system at disproportionately higher rates than non-minority youth.” The JJRA adds the term “ethnicity” alongside references to race in the Act, signifying that officials now must consider both race and ethnicity in efforts to reduce disparities. The JJDP Act now requires that state plans provide assurances that youth in the juvenile justice system are treated equitably on the basis of ethnicity.

### What are the Key Decision Points?

- Juvenile Arrest
- Juvenile court intake
- Pretrial Detention
- Disposition or sentencing
- Probation
- Placement in a juvenile corrections assessment center
- Community reentry

One of the offenses most subject to discretion is disorderly conduct. According to the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, between FY 2014 and FY 2018, out of all juvenile intake complaints, black youth were disproportionately taken to intake for disorderly conduct complaints (65.9% vs 44.8%) compared to white youth.

Reducing disproportionality in the juvenile justice system has been identified as an ongoing priority in Virginia for many years. Recent activities include:

- In collaboration with Departments of Juvenile Justice, Education, and Social Services, DCJS participated as a team and attended the Georgetown Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Certificate Program “Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice.” The team continues to refine the details of its Capstone Project.
- Provide technical assistance statewide and to jurisdictions to review data, policies, and procedures that may be driving disproportionality and disparities in the juvenile justice system as identified.
- Contract with a consultant organization for equity coordination work. This work has included a number of deliverables, including training in implicit bias, and the development of a RED website which houses resources.
- Provide funding for eligible sub-grantee projects demonstrating compliance and progress with their grant

*Continued on page 9*



## Computer Services

The Computer Services section has been hard at work keeping the systems and infrastructure at DCJS running efficiently. They are in the process of decommissioning several old databases that are no longer in use. The current web server is approaching its end of life, and preparations are being made to replace it. They are also in the process of developing a new Helpdesk ticketing system. This will introduce several new features and have significant enhancements for the users. Stay tuned for a release date.

If you haven't heard, Microsoft will be ending support for Windows 7 in January of 2020. In preparation for this, they have been working with VITA to ensure that all of the DCJS

computers are migrated to Windows 10. This is a necessary process to keep systems secure and up to date.

DCJS is actively looking for a vendor to replace the current GMIS system. The new system will be called OGMS (Online Grants Management System). After defining a list of requirements with the project team, an RFP was created and released. With the help of VITA, this was determined to be a statewide contract so that any state agency could buy off of once a contract is in place. We had six responses to our RFP and have narrowed down the list to two. We are requesting one last demo before we determine the finalist. Once we see the two systems one more time, we will re-evaluate and determine whom we will negotiate a contract with.

## Criminal Justice Research Center

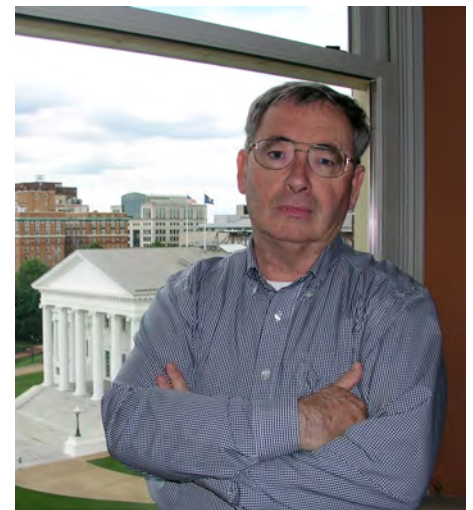
James McDonough (Jim) was elected President of the JRSA Executive Committee at the November 2019 National Conference of the Association of State Uniform Crime Reporting Programs (ASUCRP) and the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA).

The Justice Research and Statistics Association is a national nonprofit organization based in Washington, DC dedicated to using nonpartisan research and analysis to inform criminal and juvenile justice decision-making. It is comprised of a network of researchers and practitioners throughout government, academia, and the justice community. The core of the network are the directors of the state Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs), which are units or agencies in state government that use information from all components of the criminal justice system to conduct objective analyses informing policy and practice at the state and local levels. Many SACs are located in State Administrative Agencies such as DCJS (the DCJS Criminal Justice Research Center is Virginia's SAC), while others are located in the offices

of the attorney general, state law enforcement, state public safety departments, and universities.

JRSA assists the state SACs and other JRSA members with technical assistance, training, and networking with SACs in other states to share information on criminal justice research and

practice going on in federal and state agencies and academia. Jim previously served two-years as Vice-President of JRSA's Executive Committee.



*Jim McDonough, Manager of the DCJS Criminal Justice Research Center*

## Juvenile Services *(Continued from page 8)*

objectives. The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services made federal funds through a competitive grant process available to localities for planning or implementation of data-driven and evidence-based programs to reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED), in Virginia's juvenile justice system. New funding was awarded to support two new projects in Loudoun County and the

City of Richmond, and there are five localities receiving continuation funding for efforts that address disproportionate discipline in schools.

Please contact Greg Hopkins at (804) 692-0977 or [gregory.hopkins@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:gregory.hopkins@dcjs.virginia.gov) for more information about reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.



Averett University is working in partnership with the DCJS certified regional criminal justice training academies pursuing a mandate to increase educational access, options, and opportunities for criminal justice practitioners. At the Regional Criminal Justice Academies Partnership Luncheon sponsored by Averett, DCJS Division of Law Enforcement Field Representative Terry Montgomery spoke on the changes in criminal justice training standards throughout the years.

*DCJS Division of Law Enforcement Field Representative Terry Montgomery*

The 2019 Sheriffs' elections produced 24 new sheriffs. Congratulations to the following newly elected sheriffs:

- Accomack County – Sheriff-Elect W. Todd Wessells
- Albemarle County – Sheriff-Elect Chan R. Bryant
- Appomattox County – Sheriff-Elect Donald D. Simpson
- Bedford County – Sheriff-Elect Mike W. Miller
- Botetourt County – Sheriff-Elect Matthew T. Ward
- Buchanan County – Sheriff-Elect John C. McClanahan
- Campbell County – Sheriff-Elect Whit W. Clark III
- Carroll County – Sheriff-Elect Keven A. Kemp
- Charlotte County – Sheriff-Elect Royal S. Freeman
- Dickenson County – Sheriff-Elect Jeremy D. Fleming
- Goochland County – Sheriff-Elect Steven Ned Creasey
- Henrico County – Sheriff-Elect Alisa A. Gregory
- King George County – Sheriff-Elect Chris A. Giles
- Louisa County – Sheriff-Elect Donald A. "Donnie" Lowe
- Northumberland County – Sheriff-Elect Johnny A. Beauchamp
- Nottoway County – Sheriff-Elect Robert L. Jones
- Prince Edward County – Sheriff-Elect L. A. "Tony" Epps
- Rockbridge County – G. Steven Funkhouser
- Scott County – Jeff B. Edds
- Southampton County – Sheriff-Elect Josh A. Wyche Sr.
- Warren County – Sheriff-Elect Mark A. Butler
- Washington County – Sheriff-Elect R. Blake Andis
- Williamsburg-James City County – Sheriff-Elect David J. Harden
- Wise County – E. Grant Kilgore

## Employee Profile: Angella Alvernaz



The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services has recently welcomed the new State Trafficking Response Coordinator. This position became effective as of July 1, 2019 and is responsible for creating a statewide response protocol for

both adult and juvenile trafficking cases. The goal is to create a response protocol that is consistent, collaborative, and multi-disciplinary. There are also several other responsibilities for this position including training, the development of statewide treatment standards and guidelines, and technical assistance to organizations and agencies. The responsibilities of this position can be found in the *Code of Virginia* § 9.1-116.5.

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services interviewed for this position during the summer and hired Angella Alvernaz. Until 2019, Angella served as the Human Trafficking Prevention Specialist with Prince William County

Public Schools. She began her professional career as a classroom teacher in Florida. After several years of teaching, she left and was hired as a police officer with Tampa Police Department. During her time at Tampa Police Department she was tasked with working on prostitution investigations and then moved into working on narcotics investigations. She earned an M.Ed. in Instructional Systems Design & Technology from George Mason University in 2018.

Angella officially began working at DCJS in August 2019. She has been meeting with key stakeholders and agencies throughout Virginia in order to understand the needs that exist within each region. There are many challenges that have been identified through this process. Angella is looking forward to working collaboratively with a variety of stakeholders to find solutions to these challenges. She is currently working on creating a comprehensive list of resources that currently exist within Virginia and is prioritizing the needs of each region. She is looking forward to meeting everyone throughout Virginia! This will truly be a journey that we will all travel together.

Angella may be contacted at [angella.alvernaz@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:angella.alvernaz@dcjs.virginia.gov) or by calling (804) 517-8695.

**For more information on Human Trafficking**

**please visit our website at:**

[www.dcjs.virginia.gov/victims-services/human-trafficking](http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/victims-services/human-trafficking)

## CONTACT DCJS

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