

PFJCI
Monthly

NEWSLETTER



Welcome

July reminds us that the United States is the strongest military presence in the world and we celebrate those men and women who fight for our freedom. At the same time, military families are often pressured and fragmented due to long separations and the stresses of war.

Several of the PFJCI Family Justice Centers have developed strong partnerships with local military bases, having an on-site liaison who can help a client navigate the specialized protocols and military court systems to obtain protection, if necessary. Check with the family services-type personnel at your local base to explore the possibility of partnering.

News from PFJCI TA Providers

Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

During this past Spring, Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence continued to support the PFJCI sites by developing curriculum and materials, instituting new training modules, and continuing site visits.

On March 30 and 31, 2006, Safe Havens Director Anne Marie Hunter visited the Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County in Tampa, Florida for a two-day, pre-opening, training with prospective volunteer chaplains. The session was collaborative, interactive, and even fun. Community Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Street helped the group think about domestic violence and its effects through interactive exercises and learning experiences. Rev. Hunter presented curriculum entitled, "Manna in the Wilderness," which demonstrates the role of faith and faith leaders in providing resources and referrals to PFJCI clients, and in moving clients toward empowerment and safety. "Manna in the Wilderness" also uses the actual experiences of survivors of domestic violence to reinforce the Chaplaincy services protocols that are the foundation of safe, non-judgmental, interfaith, non-proselytizing, victim-centered, and culturally responsive services.

On April 25 and 26, 2006, Rev. Hunter and Rev. Belen Gonzalez y Perez (of the New York City Family Justice Center) provided a two-day training in Las Vegas, New Mexico at the Tri-County Family Justice Center of Northeastern New Mexico. Executive Director Chris Sanchez, Patricia Gallegos, strategic planner, and Gabriel Ortiz, chaplaincy coordinator, were appreciative of the training, which helped all the participants better understand the role of the FJC Chaplaincy services and the protocols necessary for safe and effective work. One participant summed up the training by writing, "Very informative. Great! Thank you."

In May, 2006, Safe Havens finalized a Chaplaincy brochure, which was distributed to all the sites on June 1. The brochure is intended to help executive directors and chaplaincy coordinators screen prospective chaplaincy volunteers, and to help prospective volunteers better understand the qualities needed for safe and effective chaplaincy services.

July 2006

Produced by

The San Diego Family Justice Center Foundation's PFJCI TA Team.

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News from PFJCI Sites

The Boston Family Justice Center opened June 13, 2006 in a celebration that included a media ceremony and a public open house, allowing hundreds of people to tour the facility and see for themselves the meaning of co-located services for victims of Domestic Violence. Strongly supported by City of Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel F. Conley, the Boston FJC has an involved board of directors and active partners. Over 42 partners, agencies, and corporations were listed on the Grand Opening program as contributors, ranging from the Junior League of Boston to Magic Bean Toys.

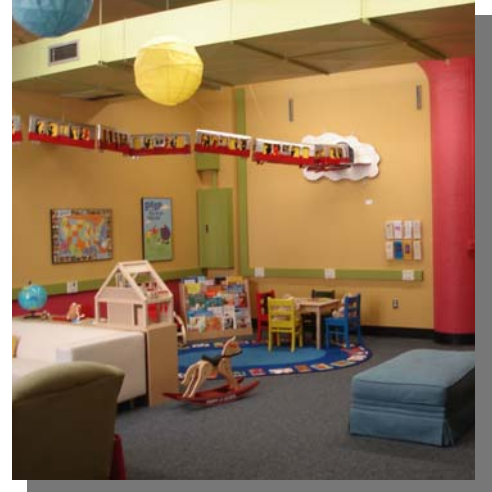
“Walking into the Dress for Success space was like walking into Neiman Marcus,” said Diane McGrogan, Technical Assistance Provider from San Diego. “They’ve created an amazing transformation.”

Speakers at the event included the Mayor and DA, as well as Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Kerry M. Healey, Media celebrity Lisa Hughes, and survivor Yma Fonfield, who offered an inspiring talk about the benefits the FJC will bring to victims of Domestic Violence. The key speaker was Diane M. Stuart, Director of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). Also attending from OVW were Andrea Bottner, Principal Deputy Director, and Michelle Brickley, Program Specialist. Julie Warren with the Office of Intergovernmental Liaison at the Department of Justice also attended.

Several electronic media cameras, still photographers, and print news media personnel covered the event in detail.

Site Operations Director Dee Kennedy was happy and excited, which was reflected in the jubilant mood of the many participants from law enforcement, legal, and advocacy agencies.

Clockwise from right, Dee Kennedy surrounded by Andrea Bottner, Diane McGrogan, Michelle Brickley, Diane Stuart and Julie Warren; the Children’s Room at the Boston FJC, Dress for Success fashions as part of victim services.



Get involved!

If you have news items for the Monthly Bulletin, please submit them to Jennifer Bodine by the 10th of each month at Jennifer@sdfjc.org and we will include them in the next bulletin, subject to OVW final approval.

If you would like to subscribe directly to the Monthly Bulletin, please email Jennifer@sdfjc.org and write “Monthly Bulletin Subscription” in the subject line.

Site Insight: Northwest Ohio and Tulsa, Oklahoma

Northwest Ohio Family Justice Center

Pam (Weaner) Hayman, J.D., and her colleagues in Northwest Ohio have taken the unofficial theme of the PFJCI - Dream Big - to heart. The site is the first rural and regional Family Justice Center in the United States, scheduled to open in October. The FJC is being formed from already existing advocacy centers and task forces in several counties in the Northwest section of Ohio, with the PFJCI grant enabling them to pool their resources into a single, unified effort to assist victims.

"Prior to the grant we had six counties at various levels of strength, all operating independently. After we were awarded the grant, it was the first time we talked about how we could do this together," said Hayman. "It increased awareness and excitement. Hearing what other people in the Initiative were doing, you felt like there was a support network out there across the whole nation."

The FJC is a collaboration of agencies governed by an Executive Board and Coordinating Councils in each participating county - Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Williams, Putnam and Van Wert. Members of the Board include Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Women and Family Services, Rural Opportunities Migrant Rest Center, Center for Child & Family Advocacy, Crime Victim Services of Van Wert County, Putnam County Crime Victim Services, Crisis Care Line/House of Transition, Sarah's House of Williams County, the Defiance Municipal Court and the Defiance Sheriff's Office. Under this governing board, The Family Justice Center of Northwest Ohio has over 100 collaborating agencies in six counties, including law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, migrant services, legal aid, victim advocacy, job services, churches and other social service agencies. There is no executive director, but a partnership of coordinators.

"This is a *collaborative*, we all work together very well. We bring ideas from the local councils to the Executive Board," said Hayman.

"One of the challenges in rural, farm communities is that many victims, dependents and perpetrators work, reside, attend school, and travel in a variety of neighboring counties," said Hayman. "It is critical that law enforcement agencies and victim service agencies develop multi-county information, cross-training, case management and multi-county emergency response teams. Because so many of our agencies have limited staff, it is important to share resources. In addition, rural victims are often isolated with no transportation, telephones, or close neighbors. Officers often have to travel long distances to respond to emergency calls. It's crucial that satellite offices be created to increase victim safety.

"The lack of affordable housing is another challenge in our rural area. We have applied for a grant to develop transitional housing and are working with the Housing Coalition of Northwest Ohio and local Habitat for Humanity groups to address the problem," said Hayman. "Another rural challenge is isolation. We are developing a strong collaboration with the faith-based partners and other community volunteers. Currently Catholic Charities in partnership with the Executive Board is taking the lead in developing this initiative."



Pam (Weaner) Hayman
NW Ohio Family Justice Centers

NW Ohio SpeedReader

- Six counties collaborating
- Governed by Executive Board
- More than 100 agencies
- Planning beyond victim safety

Over the last two years, Hayman and the Executive Board have been coordinating training, resource and information sharing protocols locally, regionally and even at the state and national levels. Partnering with the Ohio Domestic Violence Network and the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services, the Board has begun the discussion of expanding the Family Justice Center across the entire state.

"The ability to live safely and independently of an abuser requires access to jobs, childcare and transportation," said Hayman. "Therefore, we have a long-term goal of assisting victims with developing microeconomic entrepreneurships, training for job skills, setting up small business cooperatives, childcare access and transportation solutions. We are seeking another grant to develop these aspects of the work and have a goal of providing this type of service within one year of our Grand Opening."

Site Insight, continued

(Continued from page 2)

Ann Patterson Dooly Family Safety Center

"We named our Center the Family Safety Center because the name, 'Family Justice Center,' is used by another facility in Tulsa," explained Gloria Estlin, executive director of the Ann Patterson Dooley Family Safety Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. "Then we assumed a name in honor of a local Domestic Violence victim." The city has a population of roughly 400,000, with the surrounding metro area nearly doubling that figure.

Like many of the PFJCI sites, there were ups and downs before opening day. The Ann Patterson Dooley FSC opened its doors on January 24, but not without obstacles. Originally, the City of Tulsa had offered a free facility, but then mold was discovered, so a substitute location was leased. Andrea Bottner, Chief Deputy Director, and Diane M. Stuart, Director of OVW attended the opening.

"Our Grand Opening brought awareness and got the community united behind our cause," said Estlin. "Our building now has 7,800 sq. ft. and is four miles from the courthouse and near two major expressways. It's on the street level with free parking and faces a major traffic artery with a bus stop directly in front."

Since opening, the Ann Patterson Dooley FSC has served 625 clients, with 500 Emergency Protective Orders filed and 400 volunteer hours clocked. "Our volunteers are wonderful," said Estlin. "We have 15 - 20 trained volunteers who work five days a week in two shifts each day. They have been so much help; it would be very difficult to run the Center without them."

Estlin gives enormous credit to her "resources" - Felicia Collins-Correia from Domestic Violence Intervention Services, Inc. (DVIS) and Judy Lane from the Tulsa Mayor's Office, along with Stephanie Arnold de Verges, the head of Strategic Planning and Tim Gray, an attorney/advocate. This team and other community leaders brought the Tulsa DV community to a point of readiness before Estlin came on board. She was hired as executive director after the third Learning Exchange.

"After I retired from a satisfying career at IBM, I went to law school and became a DVIS volunteer," said Estlin. "It opened my eyes to the horrible situations that so many victims were enduring. I had heard about the Family Justice Center concept as a volunteer, so I knew something about it when I applied for the job."



Gloria Estlin, MBA, JD, Executive Director
Anne Patterson Dooley Family Safety Center,
Tulsa, OK

Tulsa SpeedReader

- Opened January 24, 2006
- 400 volunteer hours logged
- Armed security guard
- Successful partner relationships

"The Family Justice Center movement is definitely the way to go and it needs to be regionalized," said Estlin. "Within the first 60 days of operation, we had clients from every zip code in our county. We know that a lot of people out there need help."

Because the front of the FJC is glass, an armed guard provides security, as well as card-access security to the offices beyond the lobby.

"There were people who were concerned the guard would frighten the clients, but our clients have not complained at all. A week ago a woman and her children had been forced into the car of her abuser who was threatening her. The car stopped at a red light in front of the FJC and she suddenly jumped out and ran through our doors to save her life. We got her behind our security doors just as the driver chased in after her. The police set up a road-block and were able to apprehend him and reunite her with her children. The victim/client had visited us three weeks before and was on her way to leaving the abuser. It made us realize that we are getting the word out that women are safe here."

(Continued on page 5)

Site Insight NW Ohio, continued

(Continued from page 3)

"It's so much fun, so incredible and it's working," said Hayman, who wrote the initial PFJCI grant. Major Doug Engel of the Defiance Sheriff's Office has been my 'partner in crime' and has made a huge difference in bringing law enforcement on board," said Hayman. Together they have coordinated mandatory scenario-based training of police officers. The Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy has recently underwritten creating on-line versions of these trainings, which will reside on the Ohio Attorney General's Website."

Another partnership with Defiance College and the Cambodian Women's Crisis Center has created a global impact of the FJC in a project titled, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking. Toledo, Ohio has the highest incidence of trafficking minors in the country," explained Hayman. "Defiance College sponsors a trip to Cambodia for students and professionals to study this growing problem and devise solutions."

"The FJC collaboration has really opened the door to understanding why the college is taking on this whole, world-wide problem. All of a sudden, people see victims as human and global abuse seems close to home.

The team is also exploring a partnership with a national agency, LOVE, INC., to set up a regional resource network through area churches, including a voluntary program where clients attend classes and receive in exchange food and gasoline vouchers.

"I've worked with victims since I was 19 years-old. The FJC is the dream I've had for 26 years. To see that it's actually happening and at such a huge level is amazing," said Hayman. But the dream doesn't stop when the doors open for Pam Hayman and the folks in NW Ohio.

"The Family Justice Center of Northwest Ohio is a warm, friendly, home-like environment to access critical professional services, such as meeting with an officer or prosecutor, talking with an advocate, obtaining a protection order, custody and other civil/legal services, finding safe housing, childcare and transportation," said Hayman. "But it is also a place that victims and their children can go to get groceries for the week, to obtain clothing, furniture, get a haircut or find help with household repairs. It's a place to attend classes on everything from car repair to budgeting. A place to drop in for coffee or lunch, where children and teens can play games, ping pong, video games, sing Karaoke, or just hang out. It's a place where families can have movie and a snack night, make holiday gifts and decorations, or have a birthday party. It is a place where children and teens can have someone to talk to, get help with homework, help others with community service projects and go on fun trips. Where victims have time to meditate, rest and meet with a chaplain, knowing their children are cared for and having fun. This is the real dream and we are committed to making it a reality in Ohio."

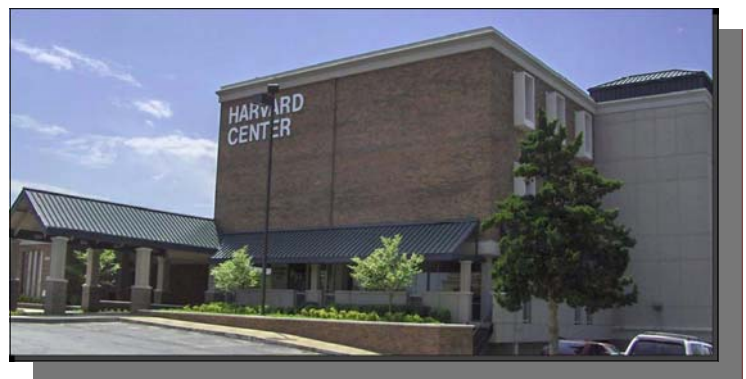
Site Insight Tulsa, continued

(Continued from page 4)

A major success identified by Estlin is the relationships among the partners. The FSC has eight partners with MOU agreements. These include DVIS, Tulsa County District Attorney, Tulsa County Sheriff, City of Tulsa Police Family Violence Unit, Tulsa Metropolitan Ministries, Tulsa County Medical Society, RSVP Safety Shepherds, and the YWCA Multicultural Center. There are three Spanish-bilingual staff, with frequent needs for Russian and Vietnamese interpreters, which are a phone call away.

"Our partners work together and realize that we are all after the same goal - making victims safe. We don't always get along on every issue and have to stay within the boundaries of our own areas of expertise, but everybody wants to fix the client's problem. We have weekly meetings and recognize that everyone comes in with good credentials and they do their jobs well," said Estlin. "There are too many people in Tulsa who care deeply about this issue to let problems overcome the work of the Center.

"We are like an umbrella and our partners come and stand under it, but the world is too complicated in any discipline, let alone DV, to leave the decision-making to a few people. We need the wisdom of everyone."



**Anne Patterson Dooley Family Safety Center,
Tulsa, Oklahoma**

Spotlight On: Jeff Edleson

PFJCI faculty

Each issue of the Monthly Bulletin will highlight a PFCJI faculty member.

Jeffrey L. Edleson is a Professor in the University of Minnesota School of Social Work and Director of the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse (www.mincava.umn.edu). He has published over 90 articles and seven books on domestic violence, group work, and program evaluation. Dr. Edleson conducted intervention research at the Domestic Abuse Project in Minneapolis over the past two decades. He is a consultant to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and is on the National Faculty of the PFJCI. Dr. Edleson is an Associate Editor of the journal, *Violence Against Women*, and has served on the editorial boards of several other journals. His most recent books are entitled, *Domestic Violence in the Lives of Children: The Future of Research, Intervention, and Social Policy* (2001, co-edited with Sandra Graham-Bermann, *American Psychological Association Books*), *Sourcebook on Violence Against Women* (2001, co-edited with Claire Renzetti and Raquel Kennedy Bergen, *Sage Publications*), and *Parenting by Men Who Batter: New Directions in Assessment and Intervention* (2007, co-edited with Oliver J. Williams, *Oxford University Press*).



I met the late Susan Schechter in 1992; an esteemed pioneer in Domestic Violence. She asked me to write a paper with her on co-occurrence of DV and child maltreatment. We presented the paper at a three-day meeting of several groups of professionals from DV, Child Protection, and Child Welfare. More papers came out of that meeting and they generated an active national discussion, leading the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) to look at 300 programs for battered mothers and their children across the United States. This led NCJFCJ to convene a group to develop a set of Best Practice recommendations for coordinated responses of programs across the country. Out of this process came what is commonly called the *Greenbook*, published in 1999. The real title is, *Effective Intervention In Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice*. It tried to answer the question, how can child protection, courts and DV agencies work together? You can read the *Greenbook*

and keep up with subsequent advances of the Greenbook Initiative at www.thegreenbook.info. The federal government has funded demonstrations of the Greenbook's ideas in six communities across the country, as well as a national evaluation.

For 15 years before focusing on children, I co-facilitated batterer intervention groups and focused my research and writing on batterers. I think that intervention programs do have an affect and can help men change behavior, but the best ones are embedded in a coordinated community response including police, courts, prosecution, and the research supports that coordinated responses are better at helping men end their violence. Later in my career I came back to the issue of children in the context of DV. It just snowballed and I've been amazed at how many agencies are now identifying the impact of DV

on children and trying figure out how mothers' and children's safety can be enhanced.

I think the Family Justice Center concept is great. Co-location is one of the recommendations in the *Greenbook*. The San Diego FJC and the newly developing ones can demonstrate that there are hurdles, of course, but there are also benefits. One of the major barriers for families getting help is the fragmentation among and lack of knowledge about the services available. The FJC model is resource efficient. Some form of FJC would be great in every community. There are variations to this co-location strategy out there doing great work and increasing the effectiveness of individual practitioners fighting against DV.

The emerging issues are many. One is parenting. I have a book coming out in October co-edited with Oliver Williams, a professor at the University of Minnesota, called *Parenting by Men Who Batter*. It explores the question of how men who batter can be involved in the lives of their children. Is it safe? If so, how do we help them be better parents?

Another emerging issue is preventing family violence — how do you engage men in violence prevention? I'm hoping for a more concerted national effort on prevention of interpersonal violence. It's so hard to achieve because the definition of "positive relationships" differs with cultures and political orientations.

A range of interventions for children is showing some promise in the current evaluations. A number of programs working with young children are engaging in Mother/Child therapeutic work. Others are doing educational and support group programs with children.

The main point is that children experience a variety of impacts as a result of their exposure to DV, and these experiences demand a variety of services. Some will benefit from group work and others from Mother/Child counseling. There is not one type of service that is best. It varies depending on the needs of the child.

“The FJC model is resource efficient. Some form of FJC would be great in every community.”