



JULY/AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER



PARTNERSHIPS and COLLABORATIONS

WORKING TOGETHER for A SAFE, SECURE COMMUNITY

This issue we want to both celebrate CACJ and the partnerships and collaborations we have within our community. ALL of CACJ's programs represent collaborative and supportive efforts to restore and strengthen the bonds of community and empower individuals.

Our **Pretrial Release Program** partners with the courts and prison to provide alternatives to incarceration for pre-trial individuals charged with bailable offenses.

Our **Mediation Program**, specifically for divorce and custody mediations is supported by all of our judges and many attorneys as a way to resolve issues on their own with the help of a neutral third party. We also partner with the SC Borough for Fair Housing mediations and offer an annual Mediation training for Penn State law students and members of the community.

Our **Youth Aid Panels (YAP)** are supported by our school resource officers and local police and magisterial district judges who make referral for first time juvenile offenders who admit to their crimes. The YAP members are volunteers from the community who employ restorative justice principles in holding the youth accountable for their actions.

In the larger community setting, we are members of several large coalitions seeking justice for those incarcerated as well as the community at large.

Centre County collaborations:

CJAB: The Criminal Justice Advisory Board is comprised of judges, county commissioners, police, and representatives of county offices and human service agencies. The group reviews practices, monitors statistical trends, and proposals for funding. Overall, they seek ways to improve the justice system in Centre County.

BARJ: The Balance and Restorative Justice Team/Children's Roundtable brainstorms together with team members (comprised of members from court, county, and human service personnel) ways to improve existing programs and introduce new programs for youth. Our own Youth Aid Panel grew out of this collaboration.

CCRC: The Centre County Re-entry Coalition was created to enhance the successful return of incarcerated individuals to the community and thereby to reduce recidivism. In partnership with government entities, faith and community-based organizations, and many other stakeholders, the coalition utilizes a holistic approach including an emphasis on education, families, mental and physical health services, employment, housing and mentorship. They hope to improve lives and enhance public safety.

Pennsylvania – State-wide collaborations:

Pennsylvania Council of Mediators: This group works on credentials and standards for mediators, disseminates information on programs, helps to initiate new programs, and holds an annual conference. CACJ staff is on the board of directors.

Pennsylvania Pretrial Services Association: CACJ is a charter member of this group which represents pretrial programs throughout the state. We help to plan and host an annual conference in State College, exchange information and ideas for program improvement, and assist with new program start-up. CACJ staff is on the board of directors.

CACJ is also a member of the Centre County Council for Human Services and the Chamber of Business and Industry, Centre County, and a United Way agency.



CACJ, like so many other entities in both our county and the state, seek to serve those in need. Collaborations provide opportunities to gain greater awareness, pool knowledge and resources, and make things happen. We are proud to be a partner in creating communities that are safe and strong.

A SUMMER EVENING in MILLHEIM – a fundraiser for CACJ



On Friday evening, June 21, the first official day of summer, we gathered in Millheim for our first “stroll” through the town to enjoy food, drink and fellowship. It was a great success. The weather was perfect and the merchants went all out to welcome the participants.

Thank you to the businesses that participated: Elk Creek Café, Breman Town Ballroom and Leroy’s BBQ, Shade Mountain and Pisanos wineries, Inglebeans, and the Green Drake Gallery. Thanks to all for donating to our Millheim basket of goodies and to the Millheim Pool for pool passes for our Children’s Bucket full of fun.

We also thank our generous sponsors: Rosadele Kauffman, attorney at Engle, Kauffman, and VanHorn; James Bryant, attorney at Bryant and Cantorna; and Tim Fleming, attorney at Fleming Law offices; and an anonymous donor.

The theme of collaboration and working together carries through in our fundraising events. Thanks to all who bought tickets and supported CACJ.

We’re already working on plans for next year. Hope to see YOU there.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Celebrating
40 *Years*

Friday, August 23 from 5:30-7:30pm at Rhoneymeade (read the article about our history and plan to join us)



Sunday, September 15, Tussey Mountain. More details to follow in our next newsletter



*Thank
you!*

Our State College Youth Aid Panel has a new location. We are now meeting at the State College Municipal Building on Allen Street. The growth of our program required more physical space to hold our panel sessions. We are grateful for the use of three conference rooms. Thank you, State College Municipality for your partnership with us.

As the program grew we also needed more volunteers. Deb Llewellyn, our YAP Coordinator, put the word out and the community responded! New volunteers came forth from Leadership Centre County, RSVP, Penn State law students, and human service staff. We could not do our work without YOU! Together we build unity, resolve conflict, and restore justice.

Sadly, we accepted the resignation of Edward Ferguson, attorney at law. He joined the board in December, 2011 and served as Board President in 2012 and 2013. He was instrumental in organizing our Run with the Law in 2018.

Ed we thank you for your years of dedication and commitment to the mission of CACJ. You will be missed.