Wrapping Up Year 1: NCCJD’s Activities, the Pathways to Justice™ Model, and Q&A with NCCJD Staff

Leigh Ann Davis, Program Manager, Justice Initiatives

Kathryn Walker, Criminal Justice Fellow
Welcome!

• First time using webex?
  – You can communicate with other attendees or the host in the **Chat Box** and seek technical assistance if needed.
  – You can type questions about the material presented in the **Q&A** section.
  – You can **raise your hand** and we’ll pause to let you speak if we have time.

• Today’s webinar will be **recorded and archived** on the NCCJD website. Please keep this in mind when sharing information and experiences during the webinar.
NCCJD’s Mission

NCCJD is a national clearinghouse for information and training on criminal justice and disability issues. We exist to build capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to gaps in existing services for people with disabilities, and bring disability and criminal justice professionals together to proactively address issues within their own communities.
NCCJD Goals

• Create/maintain web site (with database of resources)
• Provide I&R / TA
• Publication development
  • Create Pathways to Justice training program (using DRTs)
  • Fact sheets, white papers, wallet card, conversation guide
• Provide training
  • Webinars
  • On-site (pilots, conference presentations)
NCCJD Web Site

http://www.thearc.org/NCCJD

• Created and launched Pathways to Justice™ video on home page (712 views)
• Created state-by-state map; list of resources searchable by profession
• 25 blog posts from NAC members, chapter and NCCJD staff
• Facebook - over 1,000 followers
I&R / Technical Assistance

• Approximately 250 requests

• Examples:
  – White House Domestic Policy Council
  – IACP (revise model policy)
  – US Dept. of State, International Disability Rights
  – MECP re: provide webinar on protecting children with I/DD
  – DOJ’s Community Relations Services (review training, hate crimes panel)
  – The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties & VA agency (AL)
  – ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives)
  – Numerous individual TA requests re: death penalty, suspects of sex crimes, assistance with IJPs, etc.
Publications

• Competed Pathways to Justice™ draft
• Completed 3 tip sheets, 7 fact sheets, wallet card and conversation guide
  – Conducted 5 focus groups (LE, VSPs and attorneys)
  – NAC review
  – Revised IACP’s model policy, etc.
Training: NCCJD Webinars

• Conducted 11 webinars with 1,509 attendees
• Archived webinars available
• Broad range of topics covering:
  • Serving crime victims with disabilities
  • Supporting victims re: sexual violence
  • Using protocols re: DV and SA victims
  • Alternatives to incarceration
  • People with FASD in the CJ system
  • Disability awareness and CIT training
  • Services/supports for sex offenders with I/DD
Training: Pathways to Justice™

Module 1: Introduction to DRTs and the Pathways to Justice Training Program
Module 2: Disability Basics
Module 3: Law Enforcement
Module 4: Victim Service Providers
Module 5: Attorneys
Module 6: Developing a PTJ Plan
1. C: DRTs

The Pathways to Justice Model

Based on the Sequential Intercept Model used for suspects/offenders with mental illness.
Case Study

Facts leading up to arrest:
Jack has I/DD. He recently moved to a new group home. Jack got into a verbal altercation with another resident. A third resident called 911. When police arrived, Jack attempted to leave the situation and, in the process, struck a police officer who grabbed him by the hoodie from behind.
While Jack was on the ground with officers attempting to handcuff him, one of the officers threatened to tase Jack if he did not cooperate.
Case Study

Jack was read his *Miranda* rights without assistance and did not understand what he was agreeing to. His parents were never called during his time in jail, or during the investigation.
Case Study

Jack spent 24 hours in jail without support or access to his medication. His parents called and spoke to the supervisor of the Adult Detention Center to inform them of Jack’s needs. Jack’s parents were told that their son should have told the nurse himself about his needs and given his pharmacy information.
Case Study

Jack was assigned a public defender the day he went to bond court. Initially, the judge wanted $30,000 for bond, but at the public defender’s request, and after talking to the family about whether they could afford the $1,000 on a $10,000 bond, reduced it to $10,000. Jack was out on bond when he had a competency evaluation and was found unfit to stand trial.

The state attorney refused to dismiss the charges, so the public defender sent Jack for a second evaluation regarding his sanity at the time of the event. Jack went to the same state-appointed psychologist who had seen him earlier for his competency evaluation. Jack was found not sane at the time of the incident.
Case Study

Additional Information:
Jack’s charges were eventually dismissed. His parents called NCCJD and had a great advocate at the state chapter of The Arc. Together with Jack’s service providers, they put together a personalized justice plan detailing the services Jack receives. The plan was given to the public defender who presented it to the court. The judge, assured that Jack would receive appropriate services, dismissed the charges.

Jack was arrested in mid-March of 2014 and the case was finally dismissed in mid-October. There were almost monthly hearings where everyone involved dealt with immense stress.

When asked how he felt when he was arrested, Jack said: “My heart was racing 290 because I was in the back of a squad car, handcuffed.” [At the police station] “I pretty much felt like a nervous wreck.” [When I went to the Adult Detention Center] “I felt sick to my stomach because I was around people I didn’t know.” [A couple of days before court] “I felt scared and nervous.” [At court] “I felt scared I was going to jail.” [On the last day of court] “the judge calmly talked to me and explained what would happen the next time I got in trouble.” [When the court case was dismissed] “I was still edgy.” “I feel more calmly now” [that it is over.]
Case Study

For more on this story, see our blog on The Arc’s website:
NCCJD’s Goals for 2015

• Pilot trainings in MD, SC, NJ, CO and WA
• Expert witness and legislative databases
• Conferences: The Arc of CA, AJA presentation, MD Disability Law Symposium
• Conduct final 3 webinars on topics below
• Create/disseminate 3 white papers on:
  – Violence, abuse and bullying
  – Sex offenders with I/DD
  – Juvenile Justice & Disability
Q&A with NCCJD Staff
Next Webinar Alert!

- Attend the next webinar on April 30
- Sign up to receive email alerts
- Use I&R/TA service, and refer others
- Share your story and raise awareness

Contact us at:

NCCJJDinfo@thearc.org
Questions?

Survey:

Next Webinar:
  – FILL IN

Contact us at:
  – NCCJDIInfo@thearc.org