



News for Immediate Release

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PCCD's Juvenile Justice Director Honored for Youth Advocacy

Harrisburg – Michael Pennington, director of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, was recently named winner of the 2011 Marilyn Mennis Memorial Award.

The Pennsylvania Community Providers Association presents the annual award in memory of Mennis, a long-time advocate for children with special needs.

Pennington was recognized for his efforts in coordinating local, county and state partners in assisting children in the juvenile justice system, especially helping at-risk youth with mental illness and behavioral issues, and their families.

"Under Mike's leadership, PCCD has been able to provide the research and support for kids in the juvenile justice system, including mental health screenings, and also work with families to match them with the right services and support," said George Kimes, executive director of PCPA. "Because of his efforts, these proven programs are being used statewide and are making a positive difference in the lives of at-risk children and their families."

Pennington has served as director of PCCD's Office Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention since 2005. He oversees the administration of state and federal funds to support programs to improve the state's juvenile justice system and to prevent violence, substance abuse and other problem behaviors among children and youth.

The award will presented to Pennington in October during the PCPA's annual award recognition ceremony in Somerset County.

For more information, visit www.pccd.state.pa.us or call 717-705-0888.

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