



## MISSOURI JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

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### MISSOURI JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

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JEFFERSON CITY, MO. --The Missouri Juvenile Justice Association (MJJA) Board of Directors is pleased to announce that MJJA is the recipient of the Gloria J. Jenkins Award for outstanding contributions to juvenile detention reform from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Each year the Foundation honors individuals and organizations for their special achievements on behalf of the detention reform movement. The award is named for a long-time leader of the Westside Association for Community Action in Chicago, Ill. Until her death in 2006, Gloria epitomized the powerful efforts routinely made by often unheralded community organizations and community activists.

The award was presented to Vivian Murphy, Director of MJJA during the annual Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Conference held in Kansas City. Kansas City was chosen as the site of the annual (JDAI) conference because of the state's successful juvenile justice reform efforts, including both their work to safely reduce the number of youth held in detention, and because of the nationally-renowned "Missouri Model" of smaller, more rehabilitative facilities for youth committed to state care.

The Missouri Juvenile Justice Association is a statewide organization dedicated to promoting justice for children, youth and families through education and policy. Over its more than 30 year history, the group has worked to develop and promote standards and practices for juvenile justice that help ensure that all young people have opportunity for success.

Tammy Walden, MJJA Board president stated, "We are especially honored that the Annie E. Casey Foundation has recognized MJJA for our collaborative efforts to improve conditions of confinement for youth in detention. We look forward to continuing our successful partnerships with Missouri's juvenile courts, and all the other agencies who have played such a vital part in establishing Missouri as a leader in detention reform."

More information about MJJA can be found at their website [www.mjja.org](http://www.mjja.org).

Information about the Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative can be found at [www.aecf.org/majorinitiatives/juvenileDetentionAlternativesInitiative.aspx](http://www.aecf.org/majorinitiatives/juvenileDetentionAlternativesInitiative.aspx)

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