

Connecticut Judicial Branch’s Hartford Juvenile Residential Center Receives Prestigious National Award

The Connecticut Judicial Branch’s Hartford Juvenile Residential Center distinguished itself on a national stage last month when it received the prestigious 2022 Barbara Allen-Hagen Award from the Performance-based Standards (PbS) Institute.

The award recognized the center’s actions to help ensure safety at the facility, provide effective programming, services, and restorative justice practices to achieve positive youth outcomes and reduce recidivism.



“Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson, Deputy Chief Court Administrator Judge Elizabeth A. Bozzuto and I could not be prouder of this award and the hard work that went into it,” Chief Court Administrator Judge Patrick L. Carroll III said. “We’ve always known the caliber of those who work at the center, but to see it recognized nationally is truly an honor.”

Team members at the center submitted an [application](#) that focused on staff safety and worked together to build relationships and ensure that staff felt supported. “This was a key component of the application, because when staff feels safe and supported, then children in their care will feel safe and supported,” Gary A. Roberge, executive director of the Court Support Services Division, said.

With that goal in mind, the team told the [success story](#) of how the center responded to the cumulative impact of legislative changes regarding the juvenile justice system, including the closure of the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, transfer of post-adjudicatory juvenile supervision to the Judicial Branch and the opening of the REGIONS treatment program in Hartford. In addition, the application addressed the impact of COVID-19.

“The children in our care and the communities we serve deserve the best all of us have to offer. The courage of our staff at both the Hartford and Bridgeport Residential Centers during the first days of COVID-19, coupled with the charge to continue the high level of care for the children in our custody, showed them to be the heroes they are day in and day out,” Cathy Foley Geib, CSSD’s deputy director of Clinical Educational and Juvenile Residential Services, said.

The PbS Institute established the Barbara Allen-Hagen Award in 2007 to honor Ms. Allen-Hagen and her retirement from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Each year, the award is given to a correction, detention/assessment, and community program that best exemplifies the commitment of PbS to treat all youths and develop and implement programs that lead to positive outcomes for youths, staff, and families.



L-R: Patricia Nunez, Program Manager, Juvenile, Clinical, Education and Residential Services; Giovanni Gagliardi, Deputy Superintendent, Hartford Juvenile Residential Center; and Joyce Burrell, Performance based Standards (PbS) Coach