

DARYL KRAMP, MP Prince Edward-Hastings

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

December 17, 2010

**GOVERNMENT OF CANADA FUNDS PROGRAM FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS WITH
MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES**

BELLEVILLE, ON, December 17, 2010 – Daryl Kramp, Member of Parliament for Prince Edward–Hastings, on behalf of the Honourable Rob Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M. P. for Niagara Falls, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, today announced funding to support youth with mental health and substance abuse issues who have come into conflict with the law.

“Our Government is proud of the innovative work done with our partners to help rehabilitate youth in conflict with the law who have unique needs,” said Mr. Kramp. “Supporting these programs helps keep our communities safe by working with youth and addressing mental health and substance abuse issues in very direct ways.”

Speaking at the open house for the new location of the John Howard Society of Belleville, Mr. Kramp announced \$454,200 from the Youth Justice Fund toward its LifePlan and Coaching program. This program is aimed at helping youth with cognitive disabilities such as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), mental health issues or substance abuse problems, who are involved in the criminal justice system. Through the creation of individualized plans, LifePlan works with the youth to develop individual goals related to education and training, employment, health and community contribution to assist in their reintegration into the community.

The Youth Justice Fund provides \$5 million annually in grants and contributions to projects that encourage a more effective youth justice system, respond to

emerging youth justice issues and enable greater citizen and community participation in the youth justice system.

Current priorities include addressing youth involved with gangs, guns and drugs; illicit drug abuse (under the National Anti-Drug Strategy); and youth in conflict with the law who are affected by FASD or mental health conditions.

To learn more about the Youth Justice Fund, please visit our Web site at www.justice.gc.ca/youth.

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For more info on this press release:

Robyn Dowsett
Assistant
Daryl Kramp, MP
1 Millennium Pkwy, Belleville K8N 4Z5
613-969-3800 krampd1d@parl.gc.ca