



## JJPOC Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2016

2:00PM

2D

### Attendance:

Rep. Toni Walker  
Natalie Wagner, JD  
Lara Herscovitch  
Erica Bromley  
Hector Glynn  
Martha Stone, JD  
Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway  
Stephen Grant

Christine Rapillo  
Linda Dixon, Ph.D.  
John Frassinelli  
Francis Carino  
Sarah Eagan  
Rep. Robyn Porter  
Shawn Rutchick  
Natasha Pierre

### TYJI Staff:

William Carbone  
Kitty Tyrol  
Erika Nowakowski  
Laura Downs

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and informed the committee that Secretary Ben Barnes will not be attending the meeting. In his place, Natalie Wagner, who serves as the undersecretary of the legal affairs division of the OPM working with criminal justice and legislative affairs.

Rep. Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of June 16, 2016. Francis Carino inquired about the approval of the meeting minutes from May 19, 2016 meeting. Erika Nowakowski informed that they would be checked on. The motion to accept the meeting minutes from June 16, 2016 meeting was seconded and passed.

### Update on JJPOC Progress

William Carbone informed the committee members that PA 16-147 was officially signed by Governor Dannel Malloy. He thanked everyone who contributed to the legislative process and he is very proud of the efforts made by the committee.

Ms. Nowakowski introduced the Harvard Raise the Age Project Plan. She informed the committee that Lael Chester, of the Harvard Kennedy School, has attended three workgroups, recidivism, incarceration, and diversion, and conducted focus groups. Another part of the plan will be that other open focus groups will take place in Hartford and another in Bridgeport or New Haven, as well as other focus groups within multiple agencies and legislators to identify concerns with Raising the Age. The timeline on when the report is due may be extended to ensure that the data, which is currently in the process of being transferred, is comprehensive enough. The deadline for the report will most likely be some time in the fall.



Rep. Walker asked for the information on the focus groups to be sent to her in order to invite and notify others. Rep. Walker also requested a reiteration of the overview of the Raise the Age Project by Ms. Nowakowski, who explained the scope of the project is the policies and best practices that inform the committee for creating developmentally appropriate response youth, specifically to eighteen and twenty one year olds.

### **JJPOC Implementation Plan**

Laura Downs, consultant with the Tow Youth Justice Institute (TYJI), introduced the JJPOC Workgroups chairs. Honorable Judge Bernadette Conway, co-chair of the incarceration workgroup, updated the committee on the workgroup's progress. The group's focus has been on recommendations around the 15- to 17-year-old population whose cases are transferred to and incarcerated in the adult criminal court system. They are also working on the community-based services for those children and families affected by the change in grounds for detention effective January 1, 2017 by the new JJPOC legislation. There is a draft of the Detention-Diversion-Release plan outlining the purpose of detention and the issues put forth by the new legislation that must be addressed. This draft was positively received and the incarceration work group will continue to work on it. A subcommittee is also working on a risk assessment form to be used as a tool effective January 1, 2017. There was discussion on the data evaluation for capacity and the involvement of SDE and local school boards.

Erica Bromley, co-chair of the diversion workgroup, introduced her new co-chair, John Frassinelli. The diversion workgroup is working on expanding its membership with a variety of representatives. They have a 6-month agenda, mainly focusing on the community-based diversion system plan to be ready by January 1, 2017. Mr. Frassinelli added that they are taking a results-based accountability approach with this plan and its 14 components while also looking at cost options and funding. One ad hoc group is being formed to address police training aspect of the legislation and another for ad hoc group will focus on the removal of truancy from the Family With Service Needs definition. There was further discussion on cost-benefit analysis and budgeting.

Christine Rapillo, co-chair of the recidivism work group, reported that they had one meeting working with the Harvard group. Their membership has also been expanded. Their 6-month agenda includes participating in the strategic plan for the OJJDP supervision grant, reducing recidivism through the recidivism reduction framework, and providing support to several studies. They are participating in the work plan, which is scheduled to be in by the end of the year and will include timeline development, improving educational outcomes for those in the juvenile justice system, out of school suspension reduction, and training staff on de-escalation techniques. There will be other ad hoc committees as more specific projects come up.

Brian Hill, co-chair of the cross-agency data sharing work group, reported that their first meeting will be Friday, August 12, 2016. Appointed representatives were requested in order to refresh and expand their membership and will be finalized next week. The workgroup met with the



researchers from UNH to talk about their projects and how the data work group will work with them. They also met with the researchers from Harvard. The cross-agency data sharing workgroup will continue to address the legal challenges and look at resources necessary for each of the agencies.

Ms. Downs shares that the workgroups are scheduled to meet once a month for the next 7 months. Mr. Carbone will also give regular reports about our progress toward the JJPOC goals of reducing incarceration, reducing recidivism, and increasing diversion.

### **DCF Update on Closure of CJTS**

DCF Deputy Commissioner Fernando Muniz shared with the committee that the plan is not ready today due to a few more necessary ongoing meetings about the plan. He presented the overview of the plan, the development of the plan, the process DCF has gone through in order to get input and feedback. Service needs gathered from this feedback and the national consensus on secure facilities that may replace the training school based on best practices surrounding the facility, unity, accessibility, environment, and education from the Annie E. Casey foundation are also presented. There is discussion on what CJTS currently does and allows in comparison to the suggestions, as well as feedback in response to the recommendations by the foundation. Deputy Commissioner Fernando Muniz stated the proposed action steps to accomplish the closure plan goals for CJTS will also be included in the report.

DCF hoped to have the report by the next JJPOC meeting. Deputy Commissioner Fernando Muniz says they have considered the potential population increase in the future and explained some concerns they have about underbuilding.

The report will be a draft report in order for members to be able to comment on the draft before finalizing it. The final document will be ready some time before the end of the summer. Since there is no August JJPOC meeting, DCF welcomes comments on the draft by email or in smaller groups. Rep. Walker suggested sending the draft to the workgroups in August when it is finished so it can be discussed at the September JJPOC meeting.

The agenda date for the next meeting is incorrect. The next JJPOC meeting will be September 15, 2016.

The approval of the meeting minutes from May 19, 2016 was clarified at this time. The May 19, 2016 meeting minutes were approved via email and therefore passed. Clarification, the revised May minutes were approved via email.

**Next Meeting:** September 15, 2016