



JJPOC Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2016

2:00PM

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Attendance:

Rep. Toni Walker
Sec. Ben Barnes
Abby Anderson
Erica Bromley
Hector Glynn
Martha Stone, JD
Hon. Judge Patrick Carroll
Stephen Grant
Anthony Campbell
Deborah Stevenson

Eric Osanitsch
Christine Rapillo
Linda Dixon, Ph.D.
Mark Linabury
Francis Carino
Mickey Kramer
Brian Hill
Fernando Muniz
Shawn Rutchick
Joette Katz
John Alves
Gary Winfield

Eric Coleman
John Finkle
Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway

TYJ Staff:

William Carbone
Erika Nowakowski
Kitty Tyrol
Donna Pfrommer
Susan Cusano
Laura Downs

Rep. Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Rep. Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of October 20, 2016. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Update on Progress

William Carbone, from the Tow Youth Justice Institute at the University of New Haven, reviewed the agenda for the meeting and introduced two additional members that have been appointed to JJPOC. First, the designee of Scott Jackson, the Commissioner of Labor, appointed Edward Cajigas from the Department of Labor. Second is Chief Anthony Campbell of New Haven, an appointee of the President of the Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association, Chief Salvatore of Monroe. Mr. Carbone continues to review the JJPOC membership and its statutes.

William Carbone introduced Donna Pfrommer, Director of Fund Development and Communications, and Susan Cusano, Office Manager, who are both new employees of the Tow Youth Justice Institute.

Mr. Carbone reported that there is currently no representation of families that have youth that have been through the Juvenile Justice system. We have entered into an agreement with FAVOR, an advocacy group that represents parents. Starting January 2017, funding will be provided for transportation to parents attending workgroup meetings.



The Harvard Kennedy School will present their final report on Raising the Age to 21 for juvenile jurisdiction at the JJPOC meeting on December 15th. The Harvard Kennedy School has been working with University of New Haven for the past eight months conducting numerous focus groups and have received data from state agencies. Recommendations are currently being formed and the report will go out within the next week. Please review this report prior to the December meeting.

Workgroup Updates:

Incarceration

Judge Bernadette Conway explained that the Detention, Diversion and Release plan will be finalized in 1-2 weeks and will be presented at the December/January meetings. There was discussion regarding the detention risk assessment tool which will be used to determine youth eligibility into incarceration.

A subgroup has been established to develop the detention risk assessment tool and is in editing stage. The subgroup's report will be reviewed by the Incarceration work group on Monday, November 21.

Assessment tool is a new creation; first of its kind in CT. Tool will be used any time a child enters detention. Detention staff will utilize this tool and risk out the child in terms of the danger the child poses to public safety and will submit to the court at the time the child is presented to the court where that child risks out at in terms of public safety. The tool will also address whether or not the child is at risk not to appear in court. This should assist the court in determining whether or not the child should be released or detained.

Incarceration work group continues to discuss how 15- 17 year olds should no longer be incarcerated at a DOC adult facility. A full recommendation in December or January.

Diversion

Co-chair, Erica Bromley, updated the committee on the police training subgroup which includes training staff from Post, CT State Police trainers, Tow Youth Justice Institute, CSSD, Youth Service Bureau, Cable, Chief States Attorney's Office, and OPM. Time is an issue; curriculum is full; group has begun a review of curriculum objectives and topics. The subgroup will identify gaps and create necessary training information.

The truancy subgroup will meet for the second time this month and include State Department of Education, Governor's Prevention Partnership, JRB representation, Center for Children's Advocacy, Nutmeg Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Tow Youth Justice Institute, CSSD, OPM, New Britain Board of Ed, and Connecticut Voices for Children. The subgroup will look at the local implications of the change in the FWSN referral definitions and community responses and alternatives.

The overall diversion work group is collecting data on several items including agency information and program and service information for all the alliance district. Data will allow us to map what is going on in each alliance district. Access to services, recommendations will be provided to the JJPOC.

There was a meeting with Vicki Veltri from the Lt Governor's office, Hector Glynn, Village for Families and Children and Erika Nowakowski, TYJI, to discuss the insurance issue regarding clinic based vs. in-home services and Medicaid reimbursement that was previously raised and how a neighboring state handles their classification. This is a complicated issue that will continue to be discussed and updated to JJPOC in the future.



Diversion work group explored the issue of possibly eliminating all families with service needs complaints to court. Recommendations will be provided to JJPOC in the future.

Discussion was held on the pros and cons of eliminating FWSN. Pros are similar to reasons why the truancy will be removed. A stop in court is not the way to receive services. Community should provide these services to the kids when they exhibit those kinds of behaviors. Concerns about resources and how we will provide these services at the community-based level. Services can be funded through Medicaid in a more community friendly manner.

Mr. Carbone reminded group of the goals that were set by the JJPOC regarding incarceration reduction of juveniles and diversion increase of juveniles and how the committee has progressed toward these goals through workgroup's projects.

Recidivism

Co-chair Cristine Rapillo explained the involvement of the workgroup with OJJDP Community Supervision implementation grant that OPM received. This is a 24-month, \$650,000 grant with a state match included. The grant is designed as a demonstration project to address complex needs of high risk youth who are returning their communities in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury. Someone needs to work with the child and family in their natural environment.

A subgroup has been developed to work on a detailed implementation plan and to monitor the progress and address challenges.

The Justice Center, which is the technical assistance provider, had a site visit on October 24th.

IMRP will be presenting on their parole recidivism study at the next workgroup meeting in December.

The recidivism workgroup has been reviewing data provided by DCF and CSSD regarding information on a profile of youth based on the goals that were updated to JJPOC in October.

The Vocational Education subgroup had several meetings and is working on bringing recommendations to the JJPOC in December. They will be meeting with Superintendent Torres of the Technical High School with a tour later in November.

Cross Agency Data Sharing

Co-chair Brian Hill from Judicial reported no update this month. Regular scheduled meeting was last Friday on Veterans Day holiday but will provide an update at the JJPOC next meeting.

CJTS Closure Report Follow-Up:

Mr. Carbone acknowledged and thanked Fernando Muniz for preparing the CJTS Closure report which was distributed at last month's meeting.

Abby Anderson addressed the committee to open discussion and feedback and raised the question regarding how the plan incorporates with the work of the JJPOC. This plan is not strictly about the closure of a building. It will create opportunities to link to the community supervision work.

Suggestion changes were made by Martha Stone:

- Page 14 in the "Community Services" pieces. Two areas missing: educational supports and credible messengers. CT team visited Richmond, VA recently to look at what other states were doing. Community people that were getting invested in with juvenile justice dollars. They were called credible messengers who



are people from the committee that had been through the system and there was reinvestment in those people who were acting as mentors for the kids in the juvenile justice system.

- Page 15 – under the “Redesign of CJTS Programing”, people responsible should include more than CJTS staff.
- 6.2 million dollars - Is there a chart of what we would get for that amount? How was this number reached? Fernando stated he can provide details and will share with group.
- Similar plan needed for the girls - a community based services plan for the girls needs to be put together by DCF.

Linda Dixon responded to Martha Stone’s comments on the Credible Messengers program. She is interested in receiving contact information from Martha. DCF is taking a trip to Massachusetts to visit a program called UTEC (not a state-wide program) on November 22nd. The program is about active community engagement involvement and working with family and youth. All are invited to attend.

Discussion took place regarding the ongoing process of looking at the population and what can reasonably be done to support both boys and girls. Expansion of community based services will benefit both boys and girls.

The number of youth arrested from our residential facilities is available and Fernando will provide this information at a later time.

There is an ongoing process of what the needs of the youth are in order to determine how many slots and what services are needed for juvenile justice kids. Representative Walker spoke with some parents that felt their children were put in services that were not directly related to their needs only because it was available. Profiles are reviewed of the youth and the kinds of needs that are identified in their case planning and then try to use that information to project how many slots.

It is possible for a program to be successful and for a young person to come back into the program. Recidivism should be in every plan. The number one goal is to be sure we are meeting their needs and that they are not being re-arrested or incarcerated. Must meet the needs of the individual child and determine what programs are working.

Contracts are changed frequently – most are on a 5-year cycle.

4 R’s: Elimination of Youth Prisons – Vincent Schriladi

Bill introduced Vincent Schriladi. He is a senior research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School for Criminal Justice. Vinnie has run both juvenile correctional agencies and probation agencies. He is a former senior advisor to the NYC Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, NYC Department of Probation Commissioner and Executive Director of the Justice Policy Institute in Washington, DC.

Mr. Schriladi presented on the “4 R’s: *Elimination of Youth Prisons*”. This report is not Connecticut specific. This report is a new initiative to eliminate the youth prison system and talk about a new initiative that was announced two weeks ago in Washington DC. An alliance between the U.S. department of Justice and the Annie Casey Foundation.

Report can be found on the website.

Rep. Walker thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2016, 2:00 pm

