



JJPOC Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2017
2:00PM
2C

Abby Anderson	Hector Glynn	William Carbone
Erica Bromley	Brian Hill	Kendel Coker
Francis Carino	Robyn Porter	Danielle Cooper
Patrick Carroll	Christine Rapillo	Susan Cusano
Judge Bernadette Conway	Nikki Richer	Erika Nowakowski
Linda Dixon	Gary Roberge	Josh Perry
Sarah Eagan	Deborah Stevenson	Donna Pfrommer
Tais Ericson	Martha Stone	Kitty Tyrol
Astread Ferron-Poole	Gary Winfield	Gabby Brito
John Frassinelli	TYJ Staff:	Gabriele Palmieri

Senator Gary Winfield called the meeting to order. Representative Robyn Porter welcomed all and spoke about the structure of today’s meeting. This meeting is an opportunity to assist in the development of the JJPOC strategic plan. She asked all to think outside the box, weigh in, dream, share ideas and new goals.

Senator Winfield asked for a motion to accept the minute meetings of March 16, 2017. Francis Carino abstained because he was not present at the March meeting. The motion was moved and seconded with 1 abstention. Senator Winfield asked for a motion to accept the minute meetings of June 15, 2017. The motion was moved seconded and passed unanimously. Minutes of both meetings passed.

Overview of Meeting

William Carbone, from the Tow Youth Justice Institute at the University of New Haven, reviewed the agenda for today’s meeting and asked all for their feedback and commentary on three important topics: workgroups, strategic goals and new ideas. Our current three -year plan expires next spring. Today’s meeting will set the stage for our next three-year plan.

Bill introduced Lael Chester of the Harvard Kennedy School to facilitate the discussion today. Lael spoke about the four workgroups; diversion, incarceration, recidivism, and cross agency data sharing. She opened up the discussion to the committee and asked all to express what it is they would like changed or improved upon.

Feedback from members on issues that can be improved upon:

- Moving fast, many changes, too much too soon. Should move slower
- Develop a system for evaluating progress



- Coordination and collaboration between workgroups
- Duplication between two workgroups of education that can get consolidated
- Stage agency pick one person with high authority and be sure they are present at each meeting
- Evaluations do a retroactive look and it takes too long to get the results back so the data is no longer relevant to going forward
- Racial and ethnic disparities committees and restorative justice work integration into the workgroups
- Look at impact on disparities (measure them to see positive or negative impacts)
- Streamline work
- Incorporate youth voice (young adults) and parents at meetings. Should be involved in the process, procedure and substance

Filters/Framework for Decision on Future New Goals

- Racial and ethnic disparities
- Framework of positive youth development
- Restorative Justice
- Impact on public safety & positive outcomes
- Specialized population (girls & LGBTQ population)
- Evaluate our issues based on what the cost would be to address the issues
- Justice reinvestment acts
- Community based and wrap around programs and housing support
- Data availability and collection
- Pilot groups – good way to get data

Initiatives that JJPOC should handle next:

- Evaluation of changes in place. Go down to street level (Educators, parents, youth, DCF workers, patrol officers, probation officers) and get ideas from them. Find out what they need. Hold focus group sessions/meetings around the state and listen to these groups.
- Impact of closing CJTS training school next year – focus area to be prioritized
- Restorative Justice
- Prioritizing racial and ethnic disparities
- Racial profiling of kids
- Reimagine how we can keep the kids out of the system – things they can do constructive with their time. Front end prevention & diversion. Education and after school programs
- Early identification of the high risk youth & mental health needs
- Making sure that our goals have specific language about the disproportionality
- Consolidation of JJ (education)
- Identify populations who are most vulnerable (UNH Research Team)



Erika Nowakowski of the Tow Youth Justice Institute, introduced service providers that presented their recommendations for the future of initiative planning and reform efforts:

- Alicia Woodsby – Executive Director, Partnership for Strong Communities
- Stacy Violante Cote – Attorney, Center for Children’s Advocacy
- Jeff Vanderploeg – Vice President, Child Health and Development Institute
- Dr. Lauren Ruth – Youth Policy Fellow, Connecticut Voices for Children
- Vikki Alston – Director, Clinic Operations, The Connection, Inc.
- Jo Hawke – FAVOR

Alicia Woodsby, Stacy Violante Cote

Testimony submitted on behalf of the statewide Youth and Young Adult Homelessness workgroup – part of the *Reaching Home* campaign. Their goal is to end youth homelessness by the end of 2020.

- Collect better data and utilize it
- Filling the gaps in the housing continuum for youth/young adults
- Ensure that housing solutions are integrated into discussion around discharge planning
- Education of the legal right of youth who are students and experiencing homelessness and may also be involved in the CJ system. Tool kit to be utilized to education providers, families and youth themselves
- Ensure that homeless people and homeless youth providers are involved in the attendance review team
- Coordinate with the homeless system’s Coordinated Access Networks (CANs). These networks create a Youth Engagement Team Initiative (YETI) to bring together the local youth serving agencies.

Jeff Vanderploeg

- Data – identify the needs of the kids who touch the juvenile justice system
- Behavioral Health Plan – Coordination efforts need to be better integrated
- Role of early intervention and identification – better identify kids who have needs

Dr. Lauren Ruth

- Collect more data points such as which schools have resource officers, zero tolerance policy, & look at data on specific groups (i.e., girls, LGBTQ youth)
- Examine the conditions of confinement at Manson and the York Institutions
- Collect information on the availability, utilization and effectiveness of DCF’s community-based programming for justice involved youth
- Clarification on the timeline for the strategic planning for the JJPOC (Fall)

Vikki Alston

- Address the clinical, social and educational issues as soon as possible with interventions that are proven, research-based and that will result in better outcomes for children and youth.
- Help youth stabilize



Jo Hawke

- Encourages how we can incorporate more family involvement in the workgroups
- Look at the JJ system and the ways that families are engaged throughout the system at all levels
- Families need to have a voice in order to change the outcomes
- FAVOR has participated in the community conversations for the Children's Behavioral Health Plan

Lael discussed next steps. Ideas will be gathered, organized and will be sent to JJPOC members as a survey. This information will be reported at the September meeting.

Bill Carbone made an acknowledgement of Dr. Byron Kennedy's attendance at today's meeting as an observer and also reminded the JJPOC that there will not be an August meeting.

Representative Porter thanked everyone for attending and participating today and closed the meeting.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2017 at 2:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm

*Audio and/or video of the meeting can be found on

https://www.cga.ct.gov/app/taskforce.asp?TF=20141215_Juvenile%20Justice%20Policy%20and%20Oversight%20Committee