



JJPOC Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2018
2:00PM
2B

Attendance:

Abby Anderson
Sec. Ben Barnes
Erica Bromley
Kenneth Butricks
Francis Carino
Patrick Carroll
Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway
Sarah Eagan
Tais Ericson
John Frassinelli
Eulalia Garcia
Hector Glynn

Derrick Gordon
Susan Hamilton
Steven Hernandez
Brian Hill
John Holland
Amy Marracino
Eleanor Michael
Chief Marshall Porter
Robyn Porter
Christine Rapillo
Janeen Reid
Gary Roberge

Martha Stone
Rep. Toni Walker
Gary Winfield
TYJI Staff:
William Carbone
Danielle Cooper
Susan Cusano
Rashanda McCollum
Devon McCormick
Erika Nowakowski
Donna Pfrommer

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Announcement made that there will not be an August JJPOC meeting. Next meeting will be held in September.

Rep. Toni Walker asked for a motion to accept the June 21, 2018 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Rep. Toni Walker to accept the meeting minutes and was seconded and passed unanimously.

Update on Progress

William Carbone reviewed the agenda for this meeting.

William Carbone announced Dr. Danielle Cooper, TYJI Director of Research, will report on the continuation of her study of the three agencies and the impacts of incarceration. At the last JJPOC meeting, she reported on CSSD facilities and the detention centers. Today she will report on the impacts from the Manson Youth Institute.

Mr. Carbone stated Lael Chester and the workgroup co-chairs will present their recommended goals and objectives for the new JJPOC 3-year Strategic Plan.



Presentation: Recommendations and Findings from the Study of Multi-Agency Data (2005-2015)

William Carbone introduced Dr. Danielle Cooper from the University of New Haven to continue her presentation titled "Recommendations and Findings from the Study of Multi-Agency Data (2005-2015)".

Dr. Danielle Cooper explained the focus of discussion was to address the legislative mandate pursuant to Public Act 14-217, Section 79 for the 2013-2015 timeframe for youth in state-run facilities currently housing youth (Judicial Branch, DCF, DOC). The data Dr. Cooper presented on was specifically male minors who were housed in Manson Youth Institute.

Most commonly, youth admitted were seventeen year old black males. Many of these youth reside in Bridgeport, Waterbury, Hartford, and New Haven. Generally, youth are arrested eight or more times prior to placement. Youth were housed at Manson Youth Institute most commonly for property offenses, but also other violent offenses. Dr. Cooper will provide the committee with the racial breakdown of the re-arrest at a future time.

Based on these findings, Dr. Danielle Cooper presented the following recommendations to the JJPOC. It is recommended that:

- Additional considerations should be given to the age of onset at which youth experience arrests that lead to court referrals and how that age plays into future penetration into the juvenile and criminal justice systems.
- For youth who have engaged in persistent, delinquent or criminal offenses, access to developmental services is of the utmost importance, yet services vary between the adult and juvenile systems.
- Due to the multi-agency approach required to influence the policies and practices that affect justice-involved youth, it is necessary that justice professionals working with adults and children learn about the role that system involvement plays in the behavior of minors, as well as adults.
- It should be considered that the prevention of youths' contact with the criminal justice system has overlap with the prevention of youths' contact with pre-trial juvenile detention.

Discussion followed Dr. Danielle Cooper's presentation, regarding the above recommendations and findings from the study.

It was noted that in relation to youth 12 and under, the less court intervention, the better. Preventive services and early intervention is extremely important to keep these kids out of the system. More system contact does impact whether the kids are more likely to fail. The question was asked regarding who is paying for the services. Mr. Carbone commented that the age of onset should be a red flag. The earlier you see the kids for the first time, the more we may see these kids later on. The average age of first arrest for the U.S. is 13 years old.



The next steps include moving discussions back into workgroups for integration into the strategic planning process and to identify additional areas of study based on workgroup planning.

Representative Walker thanked Dr. Cooper for her complete report and recommendations. She also asked Dr. Cooper about ombudsmen. Do they exist? If not, why not? This will be discussed at another meeting.

Lael Chester Presentation: “Achieving Positive Youth Outcomes for Safer and Healthier Communities: A Shared Vision for Connecticut’s Juvenile Justice System”

Mr. Carbone introduced Lael Chester who was invited to work in partnership with the Tow Youth Justice Institute to assist and facilitate the JJPOC strategic planning process. This process began a year ago. JJPOC created a large list of issues that needed attention, which has been narrowed down to four goals. Four main components of the strategic plan:

- Statement of a shared vision
- Highlighting key activities
 - Integrating Community Expertise
 - Conducting Research
 - Enhancing workforce specialization in youth services
- Goals and objectives
- Structure and process

Two other important pieces of any strategic plan to get to your goal, and achieve your objectives is to develop strategies and identify measurements.

Workgroup co-chairs presented the four goals and objectives.

Erica Bromley and John Frassinelli co-chairs of the Diversion workgroup presented Goal 1:
Limit youth entry into the justice system

Incarceration workgroup co-chairs, Judge Conway presented Goal 2:

- Reduce incarceration

The work needs to focus on when, why, and the conditions in which we incarcerate juveniles.

Recidivism Reduction workgroup co-chairs Abby Anderson and Hector Glynn presented Goal 3:

- Reduce racial and ethnic disparities of youth in Connecticut’s juvenile justice system

Data co-chairs Brian Hill and Eleanor Michael presented Goal 4:

- “Right-size” the juvenile justice system by setting appropriate lower and upper age limits

Next Steps

Erika Nowakowski discussed next steps that will occur from July – November, 2018. The workgroups will move forward and establish strategies and measures.



Closing Comments

Rep. Toni Walker asked all to come back in September with their recommendations and suggestions. She thanked Lael Chester for being so patient during these meetings.

Mr. Carbone stated all will receive the draft copy of the first three sections of the strategic plan and thanked all of those who attend these meetings.

Next Meeting: September 20, 2018, 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

*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