



JJPOC Meeting Minutes

October 18th, 2018

2:00PM

2B

Attendance:

Abby Anderson

Erica Bromley

Kenneth Butricks

Fran Carino

Hon. Judge Patrick Carroll

Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway

Tais Ericson

John Frassinelli

Eulalia Garcia

Hector Glynn

Derrick Gordon

Steven Hernandez

Brian Hill

John Holland

Chief Marshall Porter

Rep. Robyn Porter

Christine Rapillo

Janeen Reid

Gary Roberge

Martha Stone

Rep. Toni Walker

TYJI Staff:

William Carbone

Danielle Cooper

Rashanda McCollum

Devon McCormick

Erika Nowakowski

Alexander Scranton

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Rep. Toni Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of September 20th, 2018. The motion made by Rep. Toni Walker to accept the meeting minutes was seconded, and passed unanimously.

Update on Progress

William Carbone, from the TYJI at the University of New Haven, reviewed the agenda for today's meeting. William Carbone also reminded the members of the JJPOC that applications were still open for the 2019 Transforming Youth Justice Leadership Development Program, which is set to begin next March.

Update Regarding Transfer of Juvenile Justice Functions from DCF to Judicial Branch

William Carbone passed the floor to Gary Roberge, Executive Director of Adult Probation and Bail Services for the Judicial Branch, for their presentation on the transfer of juvenile justice functions from DCF to Judicial.

Gary Roberge updated the members of the JJPOC with the timeline of the transfer of juvenile justice functions, including the initial transfer of 172 juveniles from DCF to Judicial as of July 1st, 2018. At that time, nearly 50 children were in out-of-home placements. After the transfer, Judicial worked to expand community-based services, including operating the MST TAY, MST-FIT, and 6 FREE programs from DCF, funding LISTS, and obtained a contract with Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO), which will be available 1/1/19. Lastly, a bid was placed for the LYNC program to replace CYFSC as of 1/1/19.



Over the previous 12 months, there has been several important events in regard to the transfer. On 1/1/18, Judicial assumed funding for JJ services from DCF. In February 2018, Judicial issued RFPs for Secure and Staff Secure Community-Based Programs. In May, the Juvenile Probation and Residential Services policies were revised in accordance to Public Act 18-31. Also beginning in May, Judicial began the planning and implementation of the REGIONS treatment program in the detention facilities. On August 1st, the first juvenile was admitted into the new REGIONS program.

Gary Roberge then introduced Cathy Foley Geib, Assistant Director of Juvenile and Family Services for the Judicial Branch.

Cathy Foley Geib presented information on the planning process and implementation of the REGIONS program to the JJPOC. The process began with input from providers, advocates and other system stakeholders. The goal of the treatment program is to reduce recidivism and improve well-being of the involved youth. The length of stay would be dependent on progress and goal attainment. REGIONS (Re-Entry, Goal Oriented, Opportunity to Nurture Success) focuses on building skills, changing thinking, education and vocational opportunities, and building positive connections in the community. Currently, REGIONS-Secure operates out of the Hartford and Bridgeport Detention Centers with the capability of serving 12 juveniles at each center. Girls are being served at the Journey House, formerly operated by DCF. Yale Behavioral Health is providing treatment services. Three additional REGIONS-Staff Secure bids have been recommended of which two were awarded for boys. They will provide 20 beds and are anticipated for November 1st. New bids for Secure programs will be issued this Fall. For juveniles with specialized needs such as psychiatric disorders or developmental disabilities, there is “per diem bed” providers that are available. To date, 10 contracts have been awarded for “per diem beds”.

At the conclusion of the presentation, a lengthy discussion occurred regarding the topics of the presentation. Francis Carino, from the Office of the Chief State’s Attorney, discussed the following concerns including; an escape of a juvenile from the Bridgeport facility, media reports of rises in assaults on staff at the detention facilities and the rise of discretionary transfers from the juvenile to adult court in the fiscal year 2018.

Recommendations and Findings from the Study of Community-Based Diversion Programs and Services

Due to time restrictions, Dr. Danielle Cooper’s presentation on the recommendations and findings from the study of community-based diversion programs has been postponed to the December 20th, 2018 meeting.

Next Meeting: November 15th, 2018 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

*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