Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

May 18th, 2017
Legislative Office Building
2pm  Room 2C
Progress Report

• Legislative Update

• Workgroup Report
  • Recidivism
  • Diversion
  • Cross Agency Data Sharing

• Community Provider Presentation
  • Preparing for Juvenile Justice Needs
Recidivism
Recidivism

• Major Projects:
  • Vocational and Educational (Sec. 17)
  • Prohibit out-of-school suspension in Congregate Care (Sec. 13)
  • Educational needs of children and youth in JJ system (Sec. 14)
  • Recidivism Reduction Framework (Sec. 15)
  • De-escalation Techniques training (Sec. 16)
    • Restorative Justice Programming
Diversion
Diversion

• Major Projects:
  • Truancy Subgroup (Sec. 7, 8)
  • Police Recruit Training (Sec. 10)
  • School-Based Diversion (Sec. 11)
Cross Agency Data Sharing
Cross Agency Data Sharing

• Major Projects:
  • OPM Annual Recidivism Report (Sec. 17)
  • Result Based Accountability (Sec. 18)
    • Population & System Metrics Report
  • Data collection for the new grounds for detention diversion release plan (Sec. 5)
  • TYJI Research Projects for JJPOC
Community Providers Perspective on Juvenile Justice System Needs

Presented By:

Daniel Rezende, Executive Director of Connecticut Junior Republic
&
Kimberly Selvaggi, Executive Director of LISA, Inc.
Community Providers Perspective on Juvenile Justice System Needs

• Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) is a private nonprofit agency whose mission is:
  • To provide care, treatment, education and family support for at-risk, special needs and troubled young people so they can become productive and fulfilled members of their communities.

• Programs and Services:
  • Residential Programs: Litchfield Residential, East Hartford and Winchester Group Home
  • Community-based programs located in Danbury, East Hartford, Middletown/Meriden, New Britain, New Haven, Rockville/Manchester, Torrington, Waterbury
  • Behavioral Health & Wellness Programs
  • Vocational and Educational Programs

• 2015-2016 Outcomes:
  • 2,615 young people and their families received services through CJR
  • 81% of the youth served by CJR’s New Britain A-CRA substance abuse treatment program completed services successfully
  • 87% of the youth discharged from New Britain-based Fostering Responsibility Education and Employment (FREE) Program completed services successfully.
  • Torrington Child, Youth and Family Support Centers (CYFSC) served 140 children and families and had service completion rate of 91%
  • 96% of the girls admitted to CARE (Community Residential Program) completed services successfully and were referred to the appropriate level of aftercare in their home communities
  • 85% increase in number of children and families receiving services in the Wellness Center
  • The Cable Academic and Vocational Center had a 92% average daily attendance rate, served students from 59 towns and school districts of this total 40 were represented by day students.
Community Providers Perspective on Juvenile Justice System Needs

LISA, Inc. is a private nonprofit agency whose mission is:
To provide safe, supporting, empowering programs that build skills, awaken hope for the future, and help young people successfully transition into adulthood.

Programs:

• Residential
  - Lisa’s Wish; 8-bed SWEPT program - girls age 17-21 in Plainville
  - SAIL Program; 12-unit TLAP program for young men and women age 18-23 in Bristol.

• Community Based Life Skills (CBLS); youth 14-21, statewide.

• Youth Excellence Program; 13-17 year old boys leadership program - statewide.

• DST prevention and intervention groups for girls age 14-21

Residential Demographics
67% female
62% age 16-18; 29% age 19-21
34% African American
18% Caucasian
47% Hispanic
36% JJ involved; 50% of girls involved in DST (Wish)

Staff Diversity
91% female
37% African American
42% Caucasian
21% Hispanic

2016 Residential Outcomes
67% met educational requirements
50% completed life skills
64% discharged to higher level of independence
45% got a job
*100% of CBLS youth had gains in all LS areas
System Service Gaps

- Integrated treatment
- Longer term interventions
- Early interventions
- LGBTQI, gender specific and culturally responsive services
- Wraparound support
- Access to supplemental services
- Education options
- Independent living skills
- Vocational and employability skills
- Intermediate, short term, residential treatment options
- Step-down program options
System Recommendations

1. Integrate current diversion services into a formalized system
2. Establish innovative funding structures to encourage a public/private partnership
3. If the system remains bifurcated, identify a provider to provide care coordination.
4. Pilot the preferred service delivery system in one geographic area or region
   • Design, fund, and implement in one location
   • Identify a “lead provider” or coalition to lead activities
   • The system would include services for all levels of youth in JJ and at high risk for delinquency.
   • Replicate; but only after all processes and services are proven effective
Discussion
Next JJPOC Meeting
June 15th, 2017
2:00-3:30 PM