


Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

January 15, 2015
Legislative Office Building
2pm Room 1E


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Tow Youth Justice Institute

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JJPOC Progress Update

1. Report required per PA 14-217, Section 79 (f) on progress as of January 1, 2015:


- Statutory changes
- Recidivism
- Goals
- Raise the Age
- Education

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JJPOC Progress Update (Cont.)

- Report must be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations, Children, Human Services, Judiciary, and the Secretary of OPM.

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JJPOC Progress Update (Cont.)

2. Work Group progress reports:

- Recidivism
- Goals
- Education
- Law Enforcement

3. Presentations:

- Office of the Child Advocate
- State Department of Education




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JJPOC Progress Update (Cont.)

4. February Meeting will report on Statutory Requirements due July 1, 2015:

a. Studies

- Diversion Programs
- Assessment of all Community Based Services
- Assessment of Congregate Care Settings
- State and Local Collaboration in Education




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JJPOC Progress Update (Cont.)

- Assessment of Delinquency occurring after DCF Supervision
- Assessment of Overlap between Juvenile Justice and Mental Health
- Disproportionate Minority Contact
- Results Based Accountability


b. Report will include realistic timeframes for completion of the work above.



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**JJPOC Progress Report as of
January 1, 2015**


- History
- JJPOC Task
- Implementation Process
- Progress to Date
 - Work Groups
 - Impact of Raise the Age Legislation
- Appendices
- Next Steps

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JJPOC Progress Report:

- 1. Work Group Reports:**
 - Recidivism
 - Goals
 - Raise the Age
 - Education
 - Law Enforcement
- 2. Progress since last meeting noted in boxed area**

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Recidivism Work Group

Statute:
Find common definition of recidivism and develop recommendations for the reduction of recidivism in the juvenile justice system

Accomplished to date:

1. Common Definition
2. Identified reliable process for matching youth with subsequent criminal activity
3. State Department of Education has agreed to the common definition
4. State Agencies have agreed to develop a joint framework for collecting and analyzing recidivism data
5. A work group has been established to develop an implementation plan; February report expected

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Goals Work Group

Statute:
Develop short, medium and long term goals for the juvenile justice system after the review of "relevant" reports and plans

Accomplished to date:


1. Completed the review of reports and plans
2. Obtained input from the work groups
3. Identified 5 Strategic Goals
 1. Diversion
 2. Education
 3. Treatment
 4. Disproportionate Minority Contact
 5. Data Collection and Sharing

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Goals Work Group (Cont.)

4. Three priority goals were established
 - Treatment
 - Diversion
 - Education
5. Disproportionate minority contact and data are embedded in all three
6. All work group members were asked to submit short, medium, and long term objectives for each goal
7. Very extensive list of objectives were submitted
8. Each objective include measures of effectiveness as well as legislative and budgetary implications
9. TYJI Staff consolidating and streamlining the objectives for presentation to the JJPOC in February and March


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Raise the Age

Statute:
Examine the impact of Raise the Age legislation:

1. Change in the average age of children and youth before and after RtA
2. Types of delinquent acts or criminal offenses that children and youth have been charged with since RtA
3. Types of services used by different age groups and the outcomes of those services
4. Gaps in services to include those over 18 after involvement in the juvenile justice system with recommendations for improvement


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Raise the Age (Cont.)

Accomplished to date:

1. Completed study on the average age
2. Completed study on the types of criminal offenses
3. Completed study on the trends between arrests and age over time




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Raise the Age (Cont.)

Next Steps:

1. Study and report by age groups on services and outcomes
2. Study and report on gaps in services to include juvenile offenders over age 18
3. Report slated for February JJPOC Meeting
4. Independent study of Raise the Age in Connecticut by Dr. Megan Kurlychek from SUNY Albany




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Education

- Statute:
Identify strengths and barriers that support or impede educational needs of youth in the juvenile justice system
- Accomplished to Date:

1. Strengths include:
 - Court-based educational advocacy
 - MOUs with schools regarding school discipline show success in several districts
 - RtA has increased sharing of records
 - Raise the Grade pilot in 3 cities




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Education

2. Barriers include:

- lack of reliable data
- too few prevention programs
- need for more effective re-entry plans
- inefficient transfer of records
- need for Educational Advocates, Surrogates, and lawyers
- need training in diversion and behavior management for teachers and SROs
- need strong paraprofessionals

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Education (Cont.)


3. All work group members were asked to submit short, medium, and long term objectives for Education Goal

4. An extensive list of objectives was submitted

5. Each objective is to include measures of effectiveness as well as legislative and budgetary implications

Next Steps:

- TYJI Staff consolidates and streamlines objectives for presentation to the JJPOC in February and March
- Expand membership to include school administrators

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Law Enforcement

Statute:
No statutory reference

Accomplished to date:

1. Created a Work Group
2. Identified first 2 law enforcement challenges:
 - Training
 - Collaboration

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Law Enforcement (Cont.)

- 3. Members submitted short, medium, and long term objectives for the "Diversion" goal
- 4. Identified need for police training on youth and brain development
- 5. Identified ways to enhance collaborative work between police, juvenile justice, mental health, and schools. For example: Juvenile Review Boards
- 6. Agreed to mobilize support for a "leadership training institute" for police chiefs as well as rank and file officers
- 7. Develop a communication strategy with police chiefs on youth development and juvenile justice
