



## JJPOC Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2017

2:00PM

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### Attendance:

Abby Anderson

Christine Rapillo

Natalie Wagner

Gary Roberge

Brian Hill

Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway

Sarah Eagan

Francis Carino

Astread Ferron-Poole

John Frassinelli

Hector Glynn

Tais Ericson

Fernando Muniz

Judge Elliott Solomone

Carolyn Treiss

Derrick Gordon

John Holland

**TYJI Staff:**

William Carbone

Erika Nowakowski

Kitty Tyrol

Josh Perry

Donna Pfrommer

Danielle Cooper

Kendell Coker

Susan Cusano

Sara Giarrusso

Co-chair Natalie Wagner called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Co-chair Wagner asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of April 20, 2017. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Co-chair Wagner explained that the meeting minutes of March 16, 2017 will be postponed until Representative Toni Walker has a chance to review them.

### Update on Progress

William Carbone, from the Tow Youth Justice Institute at the University of New Haven (TYJI), reviewed the agenda for today's meeting.

Mr. Carbone provided an update to House Bill No. 7286, *An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the JJPOC*. HB 7286 has been revised to reflect some of the fiscal issues and concerns impacting the state.

Mr. Carbone introduced Judge Conway, co-chair of the incarceration workgroup, to speak on some of the changes to HB 7286. Judge Conway noted Sections 1 and 5 regarding the effective date of the statute has been changed to July 1, 2019. Also, Section 6 now has updated language to exclude truancy effective August 15, 2017.

Abby Anderson commented on having kids under the age of 18 in adult facilities is not good and delaying this is not the direction that committee has supported.

Mr. Carbone introduced John Frassinelli, co-chair of the Diversion Workgroup, to speak on some of the changes to HB 7286. John Frassinelli noted that Section 6 had some language changes to reflect that status offenses will no longer be serviced by the juvenile court and other FSWN



referrals will now be referred to the Youth Service Bureaus (YSB). Also, there were changes to Section 7 to reflect that the Community-Based Diversion System Plan will only be implemented within the available resources starting July 2017. In addition, there were some technical changes made to Section 8 to reflect the changes that were made in Section 6 regarding truancy.

Mr. Carbone introduced Christine Rapillo and Hector Glynn, co-chairs of the Recidivism Workgroup, to speak on some of the changes to HB 7286. Christine Rapillo noted that the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) will be producing the annual juvenile recidivism report. Also, language relating to the vocational and educational plan has been removed. The work on developing the plan will be moving forward and most likely a legislation proposal for next year.

Mr. Carbone introduced Brian Hill, co-chair of the Cross Agency Data Sharing Workgroup, to speak on some of the changes to HB 7286. Brian Hill noted that there were no updates regarding the legislation.

There was discussion about the budget and members agreed that there is still plenty of work to do and work should not be put on hold because of the uncertainty of the budget.

## **Workgroup Updates**

### ***Recidivism***

Co-Chair Christine Rapillo reported that a major project of the workgroup is the Vocational and Education Plan. Christine Rapillo acknowledged that there has been lots of collaboration between different agencies regarding this Plan.

The workgroup was mandated to work on prohibiting out-of-school suspension in Congregate Care. Christine Rapillo noted that DCF has already implemented a policy regarding this issue and the other agencies, DCF and CSSD, are also looking at alternative forms of discipline.

There will be upcoming recommendations regarding the educational needs for children and youth with special needs who come through the juvenile court system.

DCF has created an action plan for implementing the Recidivism Reduction Framework and will soon be reporting back to the workgroup with regards to implementation.

Christine Rapillo reported that DCF and CSSD are both developing crisis management tools and are currently working on implementing restorative justice principles and practices. She also acknowledged DCF's collaboration with CJTS in successfully implementing restorative justice principles and practices program that has now expanded to a residential facility.

William Carbone and Christine Rapillo thanked the members of the workgroup and outside agencies that have helped get all of this work done. Natalie Wagner thanked Christine Rapillo for reporting on the projects going on in the Recidivism Workgroup.



### ***Diversion***

Co-chair John Frassinelli reported that the Truancy Subgroup is working on finalizing a truancy referral guide that will be implemented in schools. The Truancy Subgroup is also putting together a survey that will be sent nationally to various programs that are doing similar work in this area. The subgroup is looking to find additional information on different truancy intervention models, how they're being funded, and the success of the programs. This survey is being released through TYJI, in collaboration with the State Department of Education (SDE). In addition, SDE has released the Chronic Absenteeism Prevention and Intervention Guide which focuses on chronic absenteeism in schools.

Statute requires that the Connecticut State Police and POST must include techniques for handling trauma, restorative justice practices, adolescent development, risk assessment and screening, and mobile psychiatric services. The subgroup looked at the training that already existed and looked to see how they could be tweaked to meet all the requirements. Adolescent development and techniques for handling trauma were two areas which required some modifications. By the next meeting, the workgroup will have something drafted with the language and resources that will be implemented for State Police and POST training.

John Frassinelli explained that a subgroup is working on analyzing data for the School-Based Diversion System Plan. The subgroup is looking at data regarding school arrests by SDE, JRB referrals, EMPS, and the Connecticut School Health Survey to see how diversion can be done directly in school.

### ***Cross Agency Data Sharing***

Co-chair Brian Hill thanked members and co-chairs from the other workgroups for attending this workgroup's monthly meetings. Brian Hill reported that the Annual Recidivism Report will be compiled and reported by the OPM Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division.

Brian Hill noted that there is continuous work being done to the Result Based Accountability Plan and the workgroup has reviewed an initial draft of an update to the Population and System Metrics Report. The workgroup plans on reporting on a broader array of system metrics related to juvenile justice system and child wellness in Connecticut sometime in the fall.

The workgroup is currently putting together a data collection plan for the Detention Diversion Release Plan. There has been ongoing discussion regarding how to collect data and identify kids who have been impacted by the reduction and grounds for detention and thus have been diverted from detention.

Brian Hill provided an update on the research projects that are being conducted through TYJI. Brian Hill thanked Dr. Cooper and Dr. Coker for all of their efforts on the research projects. Recently, the workgroup has shared a qualitative report on the congregate care facilities report



and Dr. Cooper and Dr. Coker are expected to do a formal presentation on their preliminary data in June. Brian Hill thanked DCF, DOC, and court support services for their full cooperation throughout the process of reviewing videos of youth who have been restrained in each of the agencies facilities in 2015 and 2016. In addition, researchers have begun focus groups with field staff and administrators that will further inform the pre- and post- outcome study that is required by statute.

Natalie Wagner reminded the co-chairs that it is important for all data requests to go through this workgroup.

There was discussion about the role of JJPOC and how the work being done within each workgroup has heavily influenced the Juvenile Justice System, various agencies, policies, and program outcomes.

John Frassinelli thanked Chantae Campbell, fellow at SDE, for all her help and for doing all of the background work on the truancy intervention models.

### **Community Provider Presentation**

William Carbone introduced Daniel Rezende, Executive Director of Connecticut Junior Republic, and Kimberly Selvaggi, Executive Director of LISA, Inc. Natalie Wagner thanked Daniel and Kimberly for attending the meeting and presenting on this topic.

Daniel and Kimberly presented on the perspective of community providers on the juvenile justice system needs with regards to both of their organization's mission, programs and services they provide, and their program outcomes. Daniel and Kimberly also presented on juvenile justice system service gaps and provided recommendations to the system.

After the community providers' presentation, members asked various questions to Daniel and Kimberly.

Natalie Wagner thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.

**Next Meeting:** June 15, 2017, 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:43pm.

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