



## JJPOC Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2017

2:00PM

1A

### Attendance:

Abby Anderson

Sec. Ben Barnes

Erica Bromley

Francis Carino

Patrick Carroll

Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway

Linda Dixon

Sarah Eagan

Tais Ericson

Paul Formica

John Frassinelli

Hector Glynn

Derrick Gordon

Brian Hill

John Holland

Fernando Muniz

Natasha Pierre

Gary Roberge

Deborah Stevenson

Martha Stone

Len Suizo

Carolyn Treiss

Rep. Toni Walker

Natalie Wagner

Sen. Gary Winfield

### TYJI Staff:

William Carbone

Erika Nowakowski

Susan Cusano

Donna Pfrommer

Kitty Tyrol

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Rep. Toni Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of October 19, 2017. The motion 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 provided a review of the Pubic Act 17-02, "An Act Concerning the State Budget for the Biennium ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Making Appropriations therefore, Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State and Implementing Provisions of the Budget." This Public Act will now transfer all juvenile justice functions from the Department of Children (DCF) and Families to the Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division (CSSD). This will achieve consolidation of all juvenile justice functions.

Judge Patrick Carroll informed JJPOC members about the framework and planning that has begun regarding the transition of transferring all juvenile justice functions from the DCF to the Judicial Branch. Gary Roberge spoke specifically to how CSSD will be developing a full continuum of cost effective services that are rooted in data, research, best practices, and experience through a strong public/private partnership. Linda Dixon explained how DCF is in full cooperation with the Judicial Branch regarding the transition. Secretary Ben Barnes spoke to the issues being raised regarding the transition and addressed the closure of Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS).



Discussion followed regarding the transition and closure of CJTS. Rep. Toni Walker asked members who have questions to present them to William Carbone so that he can pass the questions on to DCF and the Judicial Branch.

## **JJPOC Legislation Update**

### *Incarceration*

Co-chair, Honorary Judge Bernadette Conway, provided the update. Legislation was passed to ensure collaboration with the Children's Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Health Plan Implementation Advisory Board and the JJPOC.

Hon. Judge Conway explained that although there was a proposed recommendation regarding the removal of children and youth under the age of 18 from Department of Correction facilities, it was not included in the final legislation.

### *Diversion*

Co-Chair, Erica Bromley, provided the update. Legislation was passed regarding the removal of the remaining Family with Service Needs classifications from the courts. She also spoke to the passing of the joint legislation with the Incarceration Workgroup regarding the collaboration with the Children's Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Health Plan Implementation Advisory Board.

Erica Bromley noted that funding was not included in the final legislation regarding the implementation of the Community-Based Diversion System Plan; however, Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs) are still being tasked with accommodating truancy and defiance of school rules referrals as of August 2017 regardless of funding status.

Co-Chair, John Frassinelli, provided update on the Ohio Scale screening tool. A small group of individuals met and spoke to the developer of the screening tool regarding more information and concerns with the tool.

### *Recidivism*

Co-Chair, Hector Glynn, provided the update. Legislation was passed regarding the annual tracking and analyzing of juvenile recidivism rates by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM).

Additional legislation was passed regarding protecting sensitive information gathered during screening and disclosure. It also sets forth practices for how that information can be obtained.

William Carbone spoke to the closure and plan of CJTS. William Carbone explained there was no need for legislation since the governor had already called for it. Additionally, there was no legislation set forth regarding the implementation of a Vocational and Technical Educational Pathways System for justice involved youth; however, the Recidivism Workgroup is currently developing an Educational Plan for justice involved youth.



Toni Walker thanked everyone for their hard work and spoke to the difficulties of the legislation based on the budget.

### **School-Based Diversion**

Erica Bromley, co-chair of the Diversion Workgroup, explained that the School-Based Diversion System Plan includes cost options for school-based diversion initiatives to reduce juvenile justice involvement among children with mental health need. This Plan will be introduced into schools and school districts with high rates of school-based arrests, disproportionate minority contact, and a high number of juvenile justice referrals.

Erica Bromley noted that the working group wanted to develop a plan that focuses on both youth who are at risk of developing mental health needs and youth who have already been identified. Erica also noted that the plan has many options for school districts so that it can address all needs of school districts. She also explained the process of creating the School-Based Diversion System Plan and how language was drafted for the Plan.

John Frassinelli, co-chair of the Diversion Workgroup, explained that they framed the plan around the School-Based Diversion Initiative (SBDI) because it has been shown to be effective. John then provided the background information that was developed for School-Based Diversion System Plan.

John Frassinelli explained that the group was developing a framework for school-based diversion with the goal being to address the need of the 20% of school-based arrests by integrating existing services with the school's multi-tiered systems of support.

Jeff Vanderploeg, President and CEO of the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI), and Jeana Bracey, Director of School and Community Initiatives at CHDI, provided an overview of SBDI goals, core elements, and outcomes achieved.

John Frassinelli thanked Jeff Vanderploeg and Jeana Bracey for their presentation and the help CHDI has had with developing the School-Based Diversion System Plan. Discussion followed regarding the School-Based Diversion System Plan.

**Next Meeting:** December 14, 2017, 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

\*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)