



JJPOC Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2018

2:00PM

1D

Attendance:

Abby Anderson

Sec. Ben Barnes

Erica Bromley

Anthony Campbell

Francis Carino

Patrick Carroll

Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway

Linda Dixon

Sarah Eagan

Tais Ericson

John Frassinelli

Eulalia Garcia

Hector Glynn

Derrick Gordon

Susan Hamilton

Brian Hill

Christine Rاپillo

Nikki Richer

Gary Roberge

Shawn Rutchick

Deborah Stevenson

Martha Stone

Sen. Len Suzio

Rep. Toni Walker

Sen. Gary Winfield

TYJI Staff:

William Carbone

Erika Nowakowski

Danielle Cooper

Susan Cusano

Gabriela Brito

Josh Perry

Donna Pfrommer

Melissa Pierre

Kitty Tyrol

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Rep. Toni Walker thanked those who were able to attend the Transforming Education for Youth in Connecticut’s Justice System public forum which was held earlier that morning. Rep. Toni Walker recognized and thanked each of the panelists from the event.

Rep. Toni Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of December 14, 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. This month’s meeting will focus on the proposed 2018 recommendations for discussion and adoption by each of the JJPOC Workgroups.

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

William Carbone introduced Gary Roberge and Judge Patrick Carroll. Judge Patrick Carroll acknowledged the work being done by Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (CSSD).

Gary Roberge explained that there has been no disruption to kids who are receiving services in the community. Gary Roberge also explained that all workgroups are meeting on a regular basis to discuss the various issues related to their subject matter. He then went into detail of what each workgroup is currently working on. Focus groups have met to gather input from advocates,



providers, field operations staff, trade organizations, and youth/families. Gary Roberge also spoke in regards to the discussion that has also begun regarding short- and long-term data exchange solutions with Department of Families (DCF) IT department. Gary Roberge thanked everyone who has been a part of the conversations and the transition process.

Brian Hill also thanked all the individuals and groups who have been continuously meeting. Brian Hill spoke to the Request for Information (RFI) that solicits availability of facilities in the state to provide secure or staff secure venues for programming. They received six responses and were geographically disbursed throughout the state. The next step is to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP).

Brian Hill explained the current RFP which is Treatment Foster Care Oregon-Adolescent (TFCO-A). This program provides out-of-home placement with individual foster care families with evidence-based services for medium to longer term settings. The responses for this RFP is due February 23rd. There are additional RFPs in process which include in-home and community-based services and treatment beds.

Additionally, Brian Hill explained that Child Youth and Families Support Centers (CYFSC) are developing an early rebid in order to be responsive to the change in population. Brian Hill emphasized the connections to local grassroots organizations through direct contracting or subcontracting.

Discussion followed regarding the transfer of juvenile justice functions.

2018 Work Group Recommendations

William Carbone reminded the group of the strategic goals that were established two and a half years ago. The strategic goals state that by July 1, 2018, incarceration will be reduced by 30%, recidivism decreased by 10%, and diversion increased by 20%. William Carbone thanked and acknowledged everyone who has worked hard on coming up with the proposed 2018 recommendations.

Diversion

Erica Bromley and John Frassinelli, co-chairs of the Diversion Workgroup, proposed three recommendations. The first recommendation is implementing the Community-Based Diversion System Plan with adequate funding. The second recommendation is to implement beginning July 1, 2018 the School-Based Diversion Framework with adequate funding. The third recommendation is to develop a justice reinvestment plan.

Discussion followed regarding the proposed recommendations of the Diversion Workgroup. Rep. Toni Walker asked members to vote. Len Suzio abstained to the Diversion Workgroup proposed recommendations. Deborah Stevenson and Francis Carino voted in opposition to the Diversion Workgroup proposed recommendations.



Incarceration

Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway and Sen. Gary Winfield, co-chairs of the Incarceration Workgroup, proposed two recommendations. The first recommendation is that as of January 1, 2021 no child under the age of 18 shall be housed in the custody of the Department of Corrections. The second recommendation is that the JJPOC be aware of the conditions of confinement, level of care, and quality of program and services children are receiving when detained in any correctional or juvenile facility.

Discussion followed regarding the proposed recommendations of the Incarceration Workgroup. An amendment was made by Martha Stone to the second proposed recommendation. The Amendment was unanimously passed. Rep. Toni Walker asked members to vote. Sec. Ben Barnes abstained to the Incarceration Workgroup proposed recommendations. Deborah Stevenson and Francis Carino voted in opposition to the Incarceration Workgroup proposed recommendations.

Recidivism

Abby Anderson and Hector Glynn, co-chairs of the Recidivism Workgroup, proposed five recommendations. The first recommendation is to develop a consolidated system for educating youth in custody by July 1, 2020. The second recommendation formally requests that agencies and providers report annually to the JJPOC on the provisions of PA 16-147 §13 which forbids the use of out-of-school suspensions in educational settings in custodial facilities. The third recommendation formally requests that state agencies which house justice-involved youth under 18 to report annually to the JJPOC on the provisions of PA 16-147 §16 which requires the use of de-escalation techniques to reduce re-arrests for youth in custody. The fourth recommendation is for JJPOC to provide input to and seek updates from the Office of Policy Management (OPM) as OPM produces the first report on juvenile recidivism in August 2018. The fifth recommendation formally requests OPM to continue to update JJPOC on the progress under the community supervision grant that the state received from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Discussion followed regarding the proposed recommendations of the Recidivism Workgroup. Rep. Toni Walker asked members to vote. Deborah Stevenson and Francis Carino voted in opposition to the Recidivism Workgroup proposed recommendations.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2018, 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

*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