



## JJPOC Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2018

2:00PM

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### Attendance:

Abby Anderson

Sec. Ben Barnes

Erica Bromley

Francis Carino

Elliot Solomon

Hon. Judge Bernadette Conway

Linda Dixon

Sarah Eagan

Tais Ericson

John Frassinelli

Eulalia Garcia

Hector Glynn

Derrick Gordon

Brian Hill

John Holland

Natasha Pierre

Christine Rapillo

Gary Roberge

Deborah Stevenson

Martha Stone

Rep. Toni Walker

### TYJI Staff:

William Carbone

Erika Nowakowski

Danielle Cooper

Donna Pfrommer

Gabriela Brito

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Rep. Toni Walker introduced Sec. Ben Barnes. Sec. Ben Barnes announced that the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) has accepted, for a number of years, a federal grant for juvenile justice which has been used for many different training purposes. Since the individual who has overseen this grant has retired, OPM can no longer honor the terms of the grant. There is a large sum of prior year funding that is available. OPM is working with the grantors at the Office of Juvenile Justice Programs to develop a new approach which would allow Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs) and Juvenile Review Boards (JRBs) to utilize the funds.

Rep. Toni Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of January 18, 2018. Francis Carino and Deborah Stevenson noted that the voting in the January 18, 2018 meeting minutes were incorrect. Edits will be made to reflect the correct voting. The motion made by Rep. Toni Walker to accept the meeting minutes was seconded and passed unanimously if the corrections are made.

### Update on Progress

William Carbone, from the TYJI at the University of New Haven, thanked Sec. Ben Barnes and OPM for their decision regarding the reallocation of funds of the federal grant. William Carbone reviewed the agenda for today's meeting.

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

William Carbone introduced Gary Roberge from the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division (CSSD). Gary Roberge explained that a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed



with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) for the fourth quarter funding for the juvenile services. Gary Roberge noted that the workgroups have been working diligently to ensure a smooth transfer and he thanked everyone for their cooperation. Gary Roberge introduced Deborah Fuller (Director of Family and Juvenile Services), Julie Revaz (Manager of Administrative Services and Contracts), and Cathy Foley Geib (Deputy Director of juvenile, residential and clinical services).

Deborah Fuller provided an update on PA 17-2, Section 321. In order to implement Section 321, Deb Fuller explained that legislation is needed to provide the statutory authorization for new options to replace delinquency commitment to DCF. The workgroup is currently working on drafting legislation that will put in place a juvenile justice process that is rehabilitation oriented, is guided by juveniles' risks and needs, includes a system of graduated sanctions, and addresses public safety concerns. The proposed legislation has two categories of probation which consists of probation supervision in the community and probation supervision with residential placement in a secure or staff-secure facility, which also includes a period of supervision in the community. The maximum term of probation is 18 months and an extension for an additional 12 months possible with a court order. There will no longer be a 4-year supervision option in the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation will also have some language changes since the legislation has not been modified since 1995. Definitions will also be added for clarity and consistency.

Julie Revaz provided an update on PA 17-2, Section 322 and the expansion of the community-based services. There will be a rebid to the Child, Youth and Family Support Centers (CYFSC) a year early to provide greater emphasis on connections to natural ecologies. There will be an increase in the number of available cognitive-behavioral groups. In addition, CSSD is expanding the in-home evidence-based services which will include multisystemic Therapy (MST), Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO), and Functional Family Therapy (FFT). Julie Revaz also explained there will be an implementation of education and vocational support services and an increase in flex funds.

Cathy Foley Geib provided an update on PA 17-2, Section 322 and the expansion of residential programs. CSSD will be releasing two bids for secure and staff secure treatment settings that are intended to be small therapeutic environments that will replace the capacity of the Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS). CSSD is referring to these two programs models as the Re-Entry, Goal-oriented, Individualized Opportunity to Nurture Success (REGIONS). CSSD is currently working with DCF to secure access to Journey House. Cathy Foley Geib explained that a Request for Proposal (RFP) and a Request for Quotation (RFQ) are being developed to look for per diem beds to see what is already available to meet the needs of more individualized care than what the REGIONS program will target. CSSD will also be implementing a new program known as Helping Adolescent Males in Learning Their Options Now (HAMILTON) which was created in response to the changes in criteria for detention. A Request for Information (RFI) was sent out late December/January, where 6 responses were received, to see what is currently available and to see what entities may have space that they may be willing to use themselves for programs or subcontract to other vendors.



Deborah Fuller provided an update on PA 17-2, Section 323 which provides a “safety net” for the Judicial Branch during the transitional period from July 1, 2018 through January 1, 2019. In order to implement Section 323, the Judicial Branch has been meeting regularly with OPM and DCF to facilitate a smooth transition.

Rep. Toni Walker thanked the presenters, and everyone involved in the transition. Discussion followed regarding the transfer of juvenile justice functions from DCF to the Judicial Branch.

### **Update on CJTS Closure**

William Carbone introduced Linda Dixon from DCF. Throughout the CJTS closure process, DCF has been meeting with several providers across the state to determine how to best serve youth and families. Linda Dixon reported on the current census of youth at CJTS. She also noted that clinical programming, education, home passes, and recreation continue with no disruption. Although Linda Dixon did disclose that the biggest challenge and obstacle right now is getting the facilities to take a risk and accept youths that have been involved in car thefts because there have been some situations where youths have left the staff-secure facility and stolen vehicles belonging to the staff. DCF is currently working on discharge planning for the youth in custody and is coordinating staff transitions.

Discussion followed regarding the closure of CJTS.

### **Update 2018 JJPOC Recommendations**

William Carbone spoke to the recommendations that were adopted at the last meeting. TYJI has put together some draft language for legislation for Rep. Toni Walker to review. Workgroups will receive a copy of the proposed bill once it has been drafted by Rep. Toni Walker and is ready to be shared.

### **Update JJPOC Strategic Planning**

William Carbone introduced Erika Nowakowski with the TYJI. Erika Nowakowski reviewed what was discussed at the September 2017 JJPOC meeting regarding strategic planning and results of the survey. Lael Chester will lead and facilitate the next steps of the strategic planning process with the co-chairs of the workgroups. An update will be provided to the JJPOC at the June 21, 2018 meeting.

**Next Meeting:** March 15, 2018, 2:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

\*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)