



***Juvenile Justice Policy and
Oversight Committee***

February 6, 2019

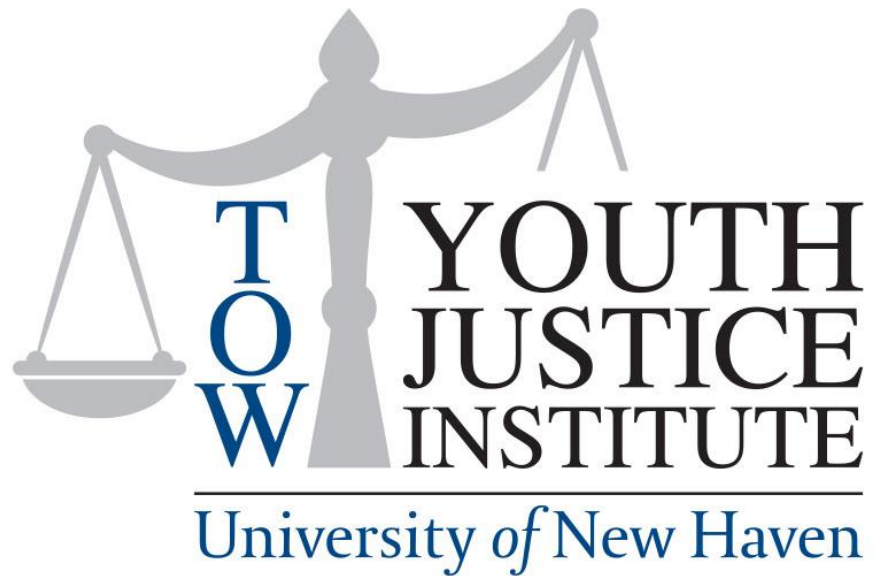
Legislative Office Building

2pm Room 1D

Progress Report



1. Recap of JJPOC Meeting on January 17, 2019
2. Review and Adopt 2019 Proposed Workgroup Recommendations (Page 9- Recommendations in detail)
3. Council of State Governments Site Visit- Save the Date
3. JJPOC Integrated Community Expertise Meet and Greet Postponed



***Recap of January 17, 2019
JJPOC Meeting***

***Proposed 2019 Recommendations for
Discussion and Adoption***

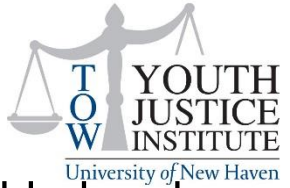
Recap of January 17, 2019 JJPOC Meeting



The following Executive work group proposed recommendations was adopted by the JJPOC at the January 17th 2019 meeting:

- A. To raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction from 17 to 18 by January 1, 2021.
- B. To have the JJPOC monitor the implementation of this change in juvenile jurisdiction, in the event it is enacted into law;
- C. To have JJPOC share relevant findings resulting from this oversight with the committees of cognizance of the General Assembly; and that,
- D. By July 1, 2023, the JJPOC should prepare a process evaluation on the implementation of this change and share such evaluation with the committees of cognizance of the General Assembly.

Recap of January 17, 2019 JJPOC Meeting



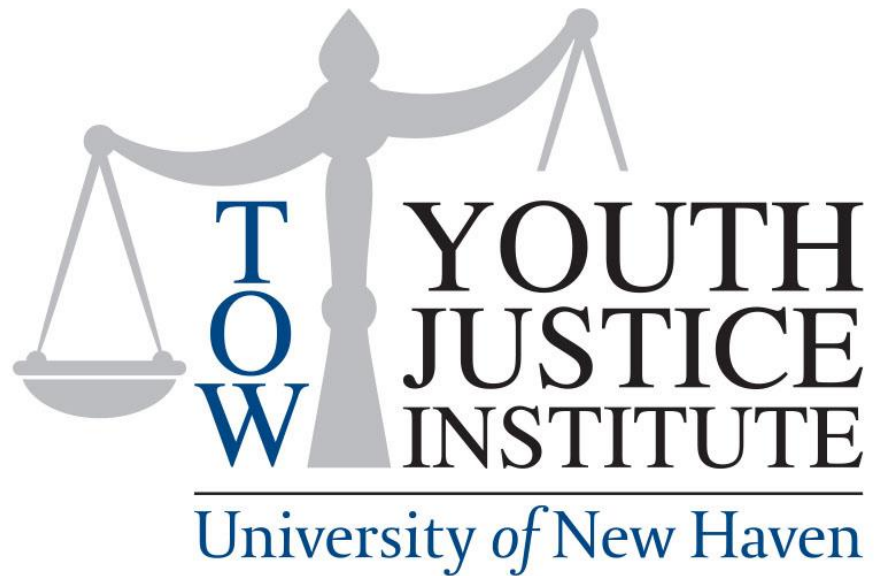
The following Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019 Recommendation #1; new language was added and it was adopted by JJPOC at the January 17th 2019

A. No youth under the age of 18, even those who have their cases transferred to the adult court, should be housed in a facility run by the Department of Corrections either pre- or post-adjudications.

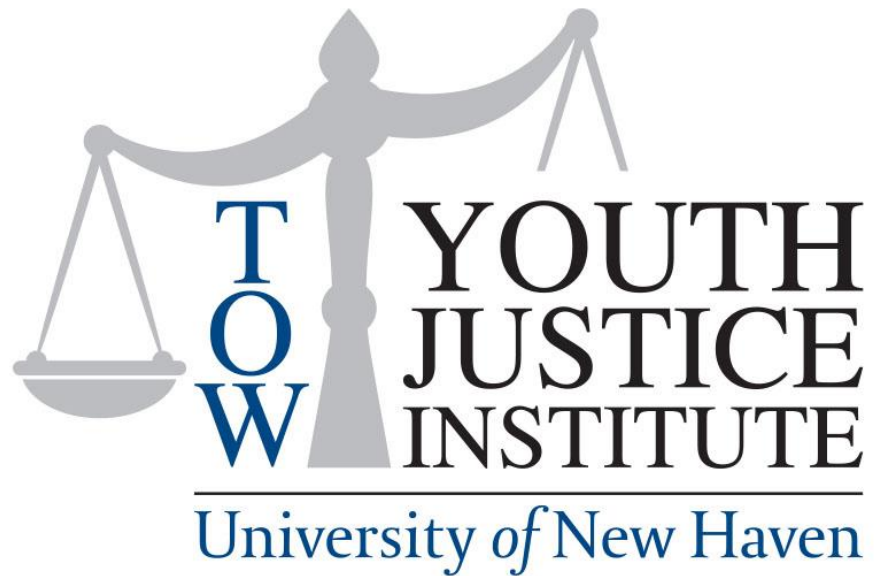
B. Will conduct a review of how other states house the 15 to 18 year old youth whose cases are processed in the adult court system. This review should address both the pre-adjudication and post adjudication housing matters.

C. Will conduct a study on other states' laws regarding the transfer of juvenile cases to adult court and the outcomes associated with those laws, including their impact on public safety and their effectiveness in changing behavior.

D. Will ensure that such review and study are completed by January 2020 and that such study includes a plan for implementation of any recommended changes, including cost options where appropriate, by July 1, 2021.



***Proposed 2019
Recommendations for
Discussion and Adoption***



***Incarceration Work Group
Proposed 2019
Recommendations***

Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019

Recommendation #2

It is recommended that DOC and Judicial Branch/CSSD:

- **To address suicidal and self-harming behaviors of youth in confinement:**
 - a) Conduct suicide screening on a routine basis for all confined youth.
 - b) Prohibit closed-door cell confinements for juveniles who present with imminent risk of suicide.

- **To address the negative impacts of solitary confinement:**
 - a) The JJPOC should conduct a review of the definitions of administrative segregation, solitary confinement, seclusion, and isolation.
 - b) Issue a report by May 1, 2019 that summarizes the review and provide recommended definitions.

Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019 Recommendation #2 (cont.)



- **To address the harmful effects of using chemical agents (pepper spray) and prone restraints:**
 - a) Prohibit the use of chemical agents (pepper spray) on youth in juvenile detention and DOC facilities.
 - b) Limit the use of prone restraints on youth in juvenile detention and DOC facilities.
 - c) Implement policies, in accordance with best practices, regarding the use of force and use of punitive and restrictive measures for youth, regardless of the correctional setting.

Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019

Recommendation #2 (cont.)

- **To address programming and services for youth in custody:**
 - a) Implement a process by which all behavior intervention plans for youth whose behavior interferes with the safety of others.
 - b) Provide trauma-responsive rehabilitative, pro-social, and clinical programming.
 - c) Are resourced to ensure provision of a 7-day per week intensive pro-social, rehabilitative and clinical programming.
 - d) Provide developmentally healthy and appropriate activities and recreation for youth and family .
 - e) Permit contact visit with youth.
 - f) Implement strategies to support therapeutic family engagement.
 - g) DOC will comply with the Public Law 108-79- Prison Rape Elimination Act standards of staffing ratios in juvenile facilities.

Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019

Recommendation #3

It is recommended that JJPOC propose legislation to enhance the protection of juvenile against potential abuse or neglect in custodial settings, as follows:

- A. Amend the mandated reporter statute as necessary to ensure that all staff who work with children in confinement, including contracted staff and ombudsmen/women be mandated reporters of suspected abuse and neglect.
- B. Require that all facilities for incarcerated youth maintain an independent ombudsman/woman to meet with the youth, tour the facility, and address concerns.

Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019

Recommendation #4

It is recommended that the DOC and Judicial Branch/CSSD create policy to enhance the protection of juveniles against potential abuse or neglect in custodial settings, as follows:

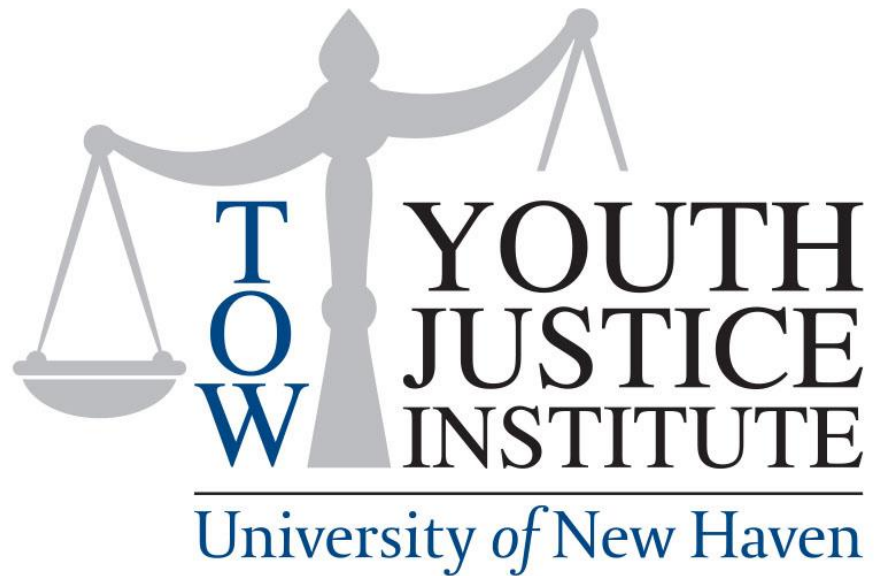
- A. Facilities will have clear process for reporting suspicious adult behavior, and an effective complaint system.
- B. Require all facilities to have policies on the use of video cameras and the use of technology.

Incarceration Work Group Proposed 2019

Recommendation #5

It is recommended that the DOC and Judicial Branch/CSSD provide all facility staff with trainings in evidence based practices in the following areas:

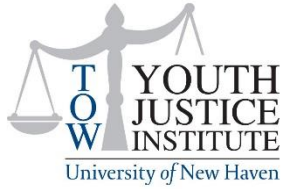
- A. Identifying risk factors for suicide.
- B. Creating a trauma-informed care environment
- C. Cultural Responsiveness, Race Discrimination, and Implicit Bias
- D. Sexual abuse prevention
- E. Effective youth and family partnership and engagement strategies



***Cross-Agency Data Sharing
Work Group Proposed 2019
Recommendations***

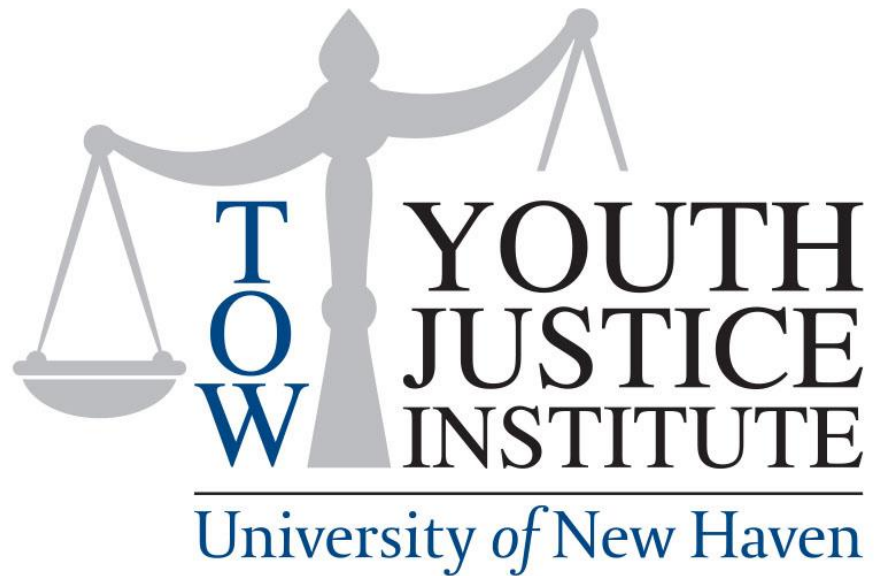
Cross-Agency Data Sharing Work Group

Proposed 2019 Recommendation #1



It is recommended that:

- A. The DOC and the Judicial Branch/CSSD collaborate with the JJPOC Cross Agency Data Sharing workgroup to develop a data collection and tracking system for:
- Suicidal and self-harming behavior of youth in confinement.
 - Use of force and physical isolation on children.
 - Education, mental health and other data as determined by the Cross Agency Data Sharing workgroup
- B. That DOC and Judicial Branch/CSSD will submit an annual report to the JJPOC on:
- Suicidal and self-harming behavior of youth in confinement.
 - Use of force and physical isolation on children.
 - Education, mental health and other data as determined by the Cross Agency Data Sharing workgroup



***Diversion Work Group
Proposed 2019
Recommendations***

Diversion Work Group Proposed 2019 Recommendation #1



It is recommended that:

- A. Removal of the remaining categories of Family With Service Needs (FWSN) referrals to Juvenile Court jurisdiction occur according to the following timeline:
- Effective July 1, 2019: *Has engaged in Indecent and Immoral Conduct*: is thirteen years of age or older and has engaged in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is thirteen years of age or older and not more than two years older or younger than such child or youth.
 - Effective January 1, 2020: *Runaway without just cause*.
 - Effective July 1, 2020: *Beyond Control* of his or her parents or guardians.

Diversion Work Group Proposed 2019 Recommendation #2



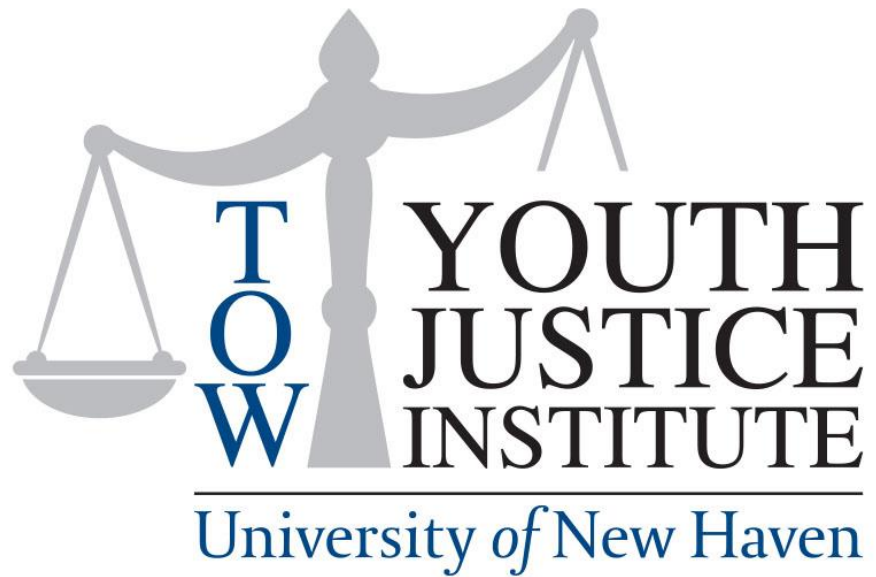
It is recommended that:

The legislature establish line items within the general fund to provide recurring funding for:

- A. The implementation of the Community-Based Diversion System beginning July 1, 2019, codified under P.A. 18-31

- B. The operation of the State's Juvenile Review Board System beginning July 1, 2019.

- C. The implementation of the School-Based Diversion Framework over a two-year period beginning July 1, 2020, codified under P.A. 18-31



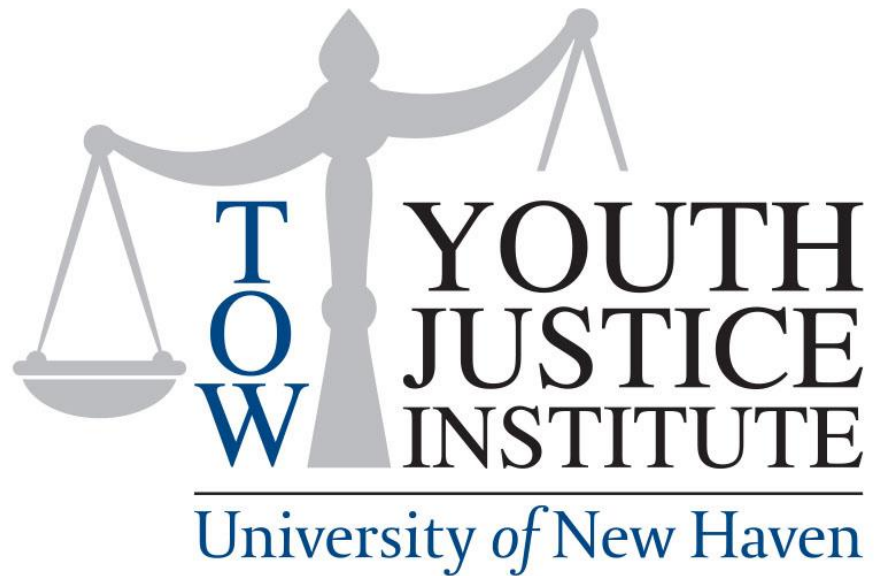
Discussion

Council of State Governments Site Visit

- **Why is Council of State Government (CSG) Coming to CT?**
- P.A. 18-31 mandates that by January 1, 2020, the JJPOC shall report on a *“Justice Reinvestment Plan that will allow for the reinvestment of a portion of the savings from the decreased use of incarceration and congregate care programming to become strategic investments in home, school and community based behavioral health services for children diverted from the juvenile justice system”*.
- Tow Youth Justice reached out to the Council of State Government (CSG) to obtain technical assistance in the development of the justice reinvestment plan. The site visit by CSG is part of their final process before deciding if they will select Connecticut as a site to partner with.

Council of State Governments Site Visit

- When:
 - Wednesday February 20 & Thursday February 21, 2019
- Where:
 - The Institute of Technology and Business Development (ITBD)
 - 185 Main St, New Britain
- Formal Invitation has been sent out please RSVP by Monday Feb. 11th to Sue Cusano via e-mail at TYJI.
 - scusano@newhaven.edu



Next JJPOC Meeting
March 21, 2019
2:00-3:30 PM