



JJPOC Meeting Minutes

July 16th, 2020

2:00PM

Zoom Conference Call

Attendance:

Rep. Toni Walker	Patrick Carroll	John Holland	Lorenzo Boyd
Kosta Diamantis	Bernadette Conway	Stacy Schulman	Donna Pfrommer
Marc Pelka	Gary Roberge	Lisa Sementilli	
Erica Bromley	Christine Rاپillo	Sarah Eagan	TYJI Staff:
Christina Quaranta	Susan Hamilton	Derrick Gordon	William Carbone
Macklin Roman	Francis Carino	Maria Pirro-Simmons	Erika Nowakowski
Janeen Reid	Angel Quiros	Joshua Bernegger	Susan Cusano
Martha Stone	John Frassinelli	Brian Hill	Kelly Orts
Hector Glynn	Derrick Molden	Eleanor Michael	Danielle Cooper
Robyn Porter	Vannessa Dorantes	Iliana Pujols	Hellen Vasquez

Representative Toni Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Due to technical difficulties, the meeting minutes could not be accepted at this time and will be voted on at the next meeting.

2020 Workgroup Work Plans

Due to technical difficulty and time restraints, this agenda item was moved to a later meeting date.

UNH Grant for Institute for Youth and Police Relations in Greater Hartford

Dr. Danielle Cooper, Director of Research at TYJI, and Dr. Lorenzo Boyd, Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, from the University of New Haven, provided an update on the UNH Grant for Institute for Youth and Police Relations.

The institute mainly focuses on excessive force and complaints when police are involved with young people . There are attempts to build a better relationship between the police and young people and trying to become solution-oriented. The primary outcomes will include:

- Police better understanding youth development
- Increased use of diversion programs
- Decreased incidents of excessive force
- Improved Youth/Police Interaction

The first 4 months will focus on education and engagement, the second 4 months will be police engaging with the community, and the last 4 months will be policing with available resources. Building these bridges will lead to trust and safety. There have been reform efforts, but challenges still remain with disproportionate minority contact; we need to have adolescent development training.

The recruitment plan may include police officers that are on basic patrol, gang units or SRO's; officers who interact with young people and are engaged with the community. During this training, young people and police officers will be brought together to understand the lived experiences of the community. Police officers will be trained on fragile communities as well. During the initial implementation period, monthly meetings will continue to follow-up on the status of the projects. The Police Accountability Task force will be putting together a community survey for the front end of this project.

There was a Q&A held at the end of the presentation. All questions presented in the chat box have been transcribed separately.

Brief Update on Federal Funds

Warden Derrick Molden from the Department of Corrections, provided an update on grant funding received from the COVID emergency supplemental funds. The funds have led to enhanced WIFI accessibility, increased family engagement for youths in detention centers, expanded video visitation program, offering of virtual programs, mentorship and job opportunities, increased health and mental health services, and improved educational technology.

There was a Q&A held at the end of the update regarding specific COVID cases in the facilities. Any additional questions have been transcribed separately.

Adaptation and Barriers to Technology Use During COVID-19

Attorney Susan Hamilton, Attorney Chris Rapillo, and Attorney Fran Carino provided an update on the adaptations and barriers to court operations during COVID. There are currently five court buildings open (Hartford, Bridgeport, Torrington, Middletown, and New Britain). Since the pandemic, a majority of the courts were working on prioritizing detention reviews. Courts are now starting to expand to other business. The courts were able to process with both prosecutors in the office and have been able to clear out pending cases which were pending.

Although transportation has become an issue, video equipment has been installed for detention reviews in Bridgeport and Hartford and parents are provided a tablet. The youth in detention centers remain and participate during their detention reviews via video conference that connects straight to the courtroom which include the judge, the clerk, and the courtroom monitor. Cisco

was also installed in the computers of public defenders where families could come and participate via video conference. The client is also allowed a private place to speak with their attorney.

Although temperatures are not assessed for each individual, informational signs are hung, staff are asked to complete a self-check, plexi-glass has been installed, and there is a separate designated place for youth and families. Courts are being very flexible with families and accommodate them by providing bus passes or allowing attorneys to call them so they can be a part of the process.

There was a Q&A held at the end of the update and all questions have been transcribed separately.

Next Meeting: September 17th, 2020 2:00 PM