

State Advisory Group (Juvenile Council)
staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2016
Howard County Library, Miller Branch
9421 Frederick Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participating Members:

Ron Rivlin, Chair
Michelle Becote-Jackson, Vice Chair
Anne-Marie Hansen-Combs
Lynn Davis
Michael Ford
Lisa Garry (phone)
Maceo Hallmon
Lynette Holmes for Secretary Abed (phone)
Tara Jackson
Jody Levison-Johnson
Liz Park
Gavin Patashnick
Erica Rosen
Melanie Shapiro
Judge Michael Stamm
Keith Warner

Guests:

Janice Marquez, Department of Juvenile Services
Lisa Pilnik, Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Staff:

Jessica Wheeler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Shanelle Johnson, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

I. Welcome, Introductions, and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes. Captain Warner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

III. Developmental Approach to Juvenile Justice Reform: Family Engagement

Janice Marquez, Director of the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) newly created Office of Family Engagement, provided members with an overview of the office as well as a preview of its new website. The Office is responsible for working with Department of Juvenile Services' staff, youth, and families as well as federal, state, and local juvenile justice stakeholders as it develops, implements, and manages the Department's family engagement policies and practices.

Members made suggestions for the new website, which has not yet launched to the public, and ideas for how the new office can engage with the community.

IV. Coalition for Juvenile Justice 2016 DMC Conference

Lisa Pilnik, Deputy Director of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, thanked members for co-sponsoring the 2016 Coalition for Juvenile Justice National Disproportionate Minority Contact Conference to be held on December 4-6, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor. Ms. Pilnik anticipates this to be a high turnout event and looks forward to working with the State Advisory Group members. The Coalition will need members of the SAG to assist with planning the content of the conference as well as selecting keynote and workshop speakers. This planning process will begin in March 2016.

V. Subcommittee Reports

a. Grant Monitoring

Ms. Davis reported that members of the subcommittee conducted a site visit at the Prince George's County Department of Family Services to discuss the Disproportionate Minority Contact grant on November 23, 2015. The following was noted:

- There is a lack of services for girls in Prince George's County
- Runaways are an emerging issue. There is a lack of resources for parents of runaways.
- The County has significantly reduced the number of school-based arrests. This can be attributed to the new centralized referral process for diversion by working with the schools and the community resources.
 - The Department of Family Services is serving as a centralized hub for diversion to ensure youth are referred to the appropriate community-based diversion program based on their needs.
- The County is working to expand the Children in Need of Supervision program as well as to align their priorities around the Children's Cabinet priority areas.

b. Youth Engagement

There were no youth members present at the meeting and this update was tabled until the next meeting.

c. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

Ms. Shapiro stated that the subcommittee met in early December with the Baltimore City and County Community Conferencing Centers and the Baltimore County Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator to discuss restorative justice in schools. A follow-up meeting is currently being scheduled.

d. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

Captain Warner briefly updated members on the vacancies:

- Representative of public agency concerned with recreation
- Youth member (DJS-involved) between ages of 18- 24
- Representative of public agency concerned with child welfare

In addition, several members have terms expiring on 6/30/16.

The subcommittee will interview a candidate for the public child welfare seat in early February. Deputy Secretary Holmes will ask the Department's Regional Directors for their referrals for the youth seat.

e. Legislative

Mr. Patashnick informed members that the subcommittee held their first meeting on December 9, 2015. Members agreed to have a conference call every Monday during the legislative session to discuss bills that are within the parameters of the Council's federal mandate. If members agree to take action on a particular bill, their recommendation will be sent to the Executive Committee for immediate e-vote.

V. Juvenile Justice Specialist Updates - Quarterly Grant Reports

Mrs. Wheeler provided members with the first quarter programmatic reports of the juvenile grants. There was a discussion about the number of youth served. Mrs. Wheeler explained that it is important to measure this based on the information stated in the grant application. It is also important to note that the first quarter is typically used for planning, especially for new programs. Due to this, performance measures may not be as high as in later quarters. Ms. Davis noted that it is also important to look at the services provided and the cost per youth for the service.

Members also discussed the 25% funding reductions. Several members stated that the funding reductions should continue across the board, as voted on by the Council. Other members stated that there should be flexibility depending on program effectiveness. Mr. Rivlin asked that this be added to the agenda in March so that members are able to have an in-depth discussion.

VI. State Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator Updates

Ms. Johnson provided members with an update on the Georgetown Certificate Program on Racial and Ethnic Disparities. She informed members that the team has submitted their implementation proposal to Georgetown to address school discipline and referrals to the Department of Juvenile Services from Prince George's County Schools. Once the team receives feedback on their proposal from Georgetown, they will move into the next phase of implementation. The team expects to significantly reduce the number of school-based referrals that are made to law enforcement and the State's Attorney's Office through this initiative.

VII. New Business

An op-ed written by the Office of the Public Defender about juvenile court fees was disseminated to members prior to the meeting. There was not enough time to discuss; this will be added to the agenda for March.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Davis made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hansen-Combs seconded the motion. All were in favor the meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:
March 14, 2016
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: TBA