

State Advisory Group (Juvenile Council)
staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2017
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
100 Community Place
1st Floor Conference Room, Side A
Crownsville, MD 21032
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participating Members:

Ron Rivlin, Chair
Michelle Becote-Jackson, Vice Chair
Marcus Bennett,
Zachary Caplan,
Anne Marie Hansen-Combs,
Heather Chapman
Lynn Davis
Musa Hammett
Lynette Holmes for Secretary Abed
Liz Park
Melanie Shapiro
Rebecca Jones Gaston
Robert Johnson, Jr.
Kimberly Sauer
Zara Schwartz
Delegate Geraldine Valentino-Smith
Judge Michael Stamm (phone)
Samantha Wiggins

Guests:

John McGinnis, Maryland State Department of Education
Misty Fae, Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County
Florina Dobre, Center for Children
Eileen Garry, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Robin Delany-Shabazz, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Chyrl Jones, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Staff:

Bill Harper, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Jessica Wheeler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Sabraya Knight, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Shanelle Johnson, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Glenn Fueston, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Justice Schisler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

I. Welcome, Introductions, and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Patschnick made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Jones Gaston seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

III. Grant Presentations

A. School-Based Diversion Pilot Program

Ms. Fae provided a status update on the pilot program currently being funded by the State Advisory Group. The purpose of the pilot program is to decrease school based suspensions and expulsions by promoting restorative justice practices throughout the entire school. The pilot program currently consists of three schools (1 elementary, 1 middle, and 1 high school). Preliminary findings are showing that the program is having a positive impact on students and school staff. Mr. Rivlin reminded members that the Group had recommended funding this pilot with the ultimate goal of replicating the model throughout the State, if it is effective.

B. Problematic Sexual Behaviors Treatment Program

Ms. Dobre provided members with an overview of the treatment program. The State Advisory Group had originally funded the Center for Children to provide training to its staff in 2015. The Group continued the funding this year to move into the implementation phase of the program. So far, the program is having positive results; however, there has been an issue with a low number of referrals. The Center for Children hopes to continue promoting the program to its referral sources to increase participation. Ms. Wheeler will share Ms. Dobre's PowerPoint presentation after the meeting.

IV. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Ms. Garry provided members with an overview of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and explained that she is interested in partnering with the States in bringing the Office back to a customer service model.

Ms. Delany-Shabazz highlighted several initiatives that the Office is undertaking, one of which is the Changing Minds public awareness campaign. Members watched the video on changingminds.gov prior to the meeting and shared that they felt the video was effective.

V. Subcommittee Reports

A. *Grant Monitoring*

Ms. Davis reported that the subcommittee's most recent visit the Montgomery County Conflict Resolution Center's School Restorative Justice Program. The program has an 80% success rate for recidivism. One of the trends of the program was a higher number of incidents involving females versus males. Sustainability is of concern to the program; however, they are currently supported through AmeriCorps. The next site visit will take place at the University of Baltimore's Truancy Court Program on April 21, 2017. Additionally, the subcommittee will have a conference call with the Wicomico County DMC Coordinator, Mark Thompson, on April 28, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Members are welcomed and encouraged to join in all future site visits.

B. *Youth Engagement*

Mr. Caplan noted that there are several youth members in attendance at the meeting, but transportation continues to be a barrier to participation. The Group will continue to explore options to improve access to the meetings for its members, including the use of teleconferencing. Mr. Caplan also explained that the Youth Subcommittee is interested in engaging with the Coalition for Juvenile Justice's Northwest Region Youth Subcommittee, and they will work to set up a call with those members in the near future.

C. *Disproportionate Minority Contact*

Ms. Johnson reported the Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee met in January and reviewed the Texas Equitable Practices model. This comprehensive plan addresses overrepresentation across the mental health, physical health, education, juvenile justice, child welfare, and employment for minorities and people with disabilities. The document provides a framework for equity for all youth serving agencies in the state.

Members recognized overlap with DJS' Equity Lens, but expressed interest in continuing to review the plan and investigate its appropriateness for Maryland systems. The subcommittee members are currently working with Texas to obtain outcome information for their model.

Additionally, the Subcommittee is interested in working closely with the Governor's Office for Children as they begin to implement a strategic plan to address racial and ethnic disparities at the state level.

The Subcommittee's next meeting is on March 30, 2017 from 1-3 p.m. at the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD 21032.

D. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

Ms. Chapman noted that the Subcommittee is currently undergoing recruitment efforts to fill the positions that will become vacant at the end of June. Those vacancies are currently on the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention's website and members are asked to refer any potential candidates to Jessica Wheeler.

E. Legislative

Mr. Patashnick stated that the Subcommittee has been meeting weekly by phone since the legislative began. Members have debated whether certain bills fit within the purview of the four core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act or the developmental approach to juvenile justice. The Subcommittee has made the recommendation to the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention to submit letters of information on several bills. A letter of information was submitted for HB 0893 – Juvenile Law – Probation. Mr. Pataschnick recommended that the Subcommittee meet with the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention prior to next year's legislative session to clarify the Group's ability to weigh in on legislative items. The Subcommittee will also research other States' participation in legislation.

VI. Juvenile Justice Specialist Updates

Ms. Wheeler reminded members that the next meeting is the all-day grant review session on May 8, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 a.m. at the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention. Lunch will be provided. Review packets will be sent to members in advance. Ms. Wheeler will also schedule grant review training via conference call for new members in the near future.

VII. Old/New Business

Ms. Holmes provided members with the FY 16 Data Resource Guide for the Department of Juvenile Services. Members will receive a more detailed overview of the data at a future meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Davis made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Shapiro seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

May 8, 2017*

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
100 Community Place, 1st Floor Conference Room, Side A
Crownsville, MD 21032

*This is the annual grant review session. Participation is mandatory.