**JJPOC Meeting Minutes**

November 17, 2021

2pm-3:30

Zoom Conference Call

**Attendance:**

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| Rep. Toni Walker  Marc Pelka  Gary Winfield  Iliana Pujols  Craig Fishbein  Erica Bromley  Macklin Roman  Patrick Callahan  Hector Glynn  Catherine Osten  Judge Dawne Westbrook  Robyn Porter  Derrick Molden | Gary Roberge  Tais Ericson  Christine Rapillo  Brian Casinghino  Angel Quiros  Desi Nesmith  Amy Marracino  Lisa Sementilli  Astread Ferron-Poole  Stacy Schulman  Vernon Beaulieu  Derrick Gordon  Gwendolyn Samuel | Chief Joshua Bernegger  Chief Fred Spagnolo  Sarah Eagan  Natasha Pierre  **TYJI Staff:**  William Carbone  Erika Nowakowski  Kelly Orts  Danielle Cooper  Donna Pfrommer  Susan Cusano  Patrick Saley  Shauntaye Monroe |  |

**Welcome and Introductions**

Undersecretary Marc Pelka filled in for Secretary Melissa McCaw of OPM.

The JJPOC welcomed members of the Community Expertise Workgroup, including CT Justice Alliance, AFCAMP, and Full Circle.

**Overview of Meeting**

The Cross-Agency Data Sharing Workgroup will provide an update on the annual strategic goals of the juvenile justice system. There will also be a presentation on the draft upcoming recommendations to the JJPOC.

**Acceptance of Minutes for JJPOC**

Rep. Toni Walker asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the October 21st, 2021, meeting. The motion to accept was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**Presentation on Connecticut Juvenile Justice System Data**

In previous years, the workgroup has presented to the JJPOC a series of trends for the purposes of measuring the progress towards the committee’s strategic plan. The presentation included data from previous years and is descriptive in nature; it is not intended to be evaluative or show cause and effect. The last two fiscal years cover a period where the system has been impacted by COVID-19. There has been a steady decline since the last time data was presented in December 2019. The number of youths who have been going to JRBs across the state is one data point of particular interest. Last time this information was presented, there was 2300 youth who were being referred. This number has dropped significantly in the most recent period. A high percentage of youth who are going to JRBs are over the age of 12, about 60% male, and more than half reported identifying with a race other than White. Of the total population in 2019, 82% successfully completed JRB services and there were a multitude of reason for non-completion. There is no current ability to track youth after their services are completed because the model of the JRB is that when you complete the services then it is as if they were never arrested.

In the first year of the period, over half of the participants at the JRBs reported being suspended from school in the past two years, with this figure dropping in the subsequent year. There were nearly 3000 admissions to the detention centers in 2006, but there has been a decline since. The under-18 male admissions to Manson Youth Institution (MYI) had been stable over the past few years but dropped in 2019, 2020, and 2021. The number of under-18 women who were admitted to York Correctional Institution in previous years has been very small; in the last two reporting periods it was just three young women admitted during those fiscal years. The Data workgroup has worked with agencies to present a picture of both rearrest and reconviction rates for different populations within the CT juvenile justice system. They have added two cohorts to the system trends charts. Each year, for the last several years, they have taken cohorts of youth who have started a period of probation or supervision with the judicial’s probation department, the size of the cohort consisting of those who were measured for the presence of rearrest or reconviction within 24 months of the start of their probation period back in 2005 was over 4000. In 2017, the cohort had shrunk to under 1200, in the 2019 cohort there was just 400 youth. Over time there have been rearrest rates within 24 months of starting probation that have ranged at a low of 56% to a high of over two thirds of the youth who have had a rearrest event in the following 24 months. The higher the risk, the higher the likelihood that the youth would be arrested or reconvicted. There have been smaller cohorts ranging in size from around 50 to 80 youth who are young men whose cases were waved to the adult court and who were released from MYI during 2011-19.

The Equity Dashboard, which is being developed by CSSD and OPM, had two major components, along with multiple agencies, groups, and individuals supporting it. The first component was the design of the dashboard working group. OPM wanted to think broadly about the design and get input from various people, with the goal of producing a final product that represented the input and ideas of the membership of the commission. The second major component was the implementation, which was a smaller conversation between CSSD and OPM. The first quarter of the year was spent identifying potential metrics and sources of data and then prioritizing what metrics would be included in the initial development. Around early spring, CSSD developed a sample data structure and provided mock data to OPM so they could begin design options. OPM began developing static mockups that show potential dashboard components, which were then shared and further revised. The dashboard will have a similar model to the COVID-19 dashboard, with a chart and context with different sections of analysis allowing the user to look at the data in different ways. The next important section is the ability for users to look at metrics geographically. This would allow the user to see information by municipality or compare measures by court location and be able to select both the time and year of data.

In order to build the technical infrastructure, there are two main components. The first step is to develop the ability to support extracting information that has been identified for metrics. The Bureau of Justice Statistics received grant funding to support the technical building of the tool, which was received in November. The next step with technical implementation is planning meetings between OPM and CSSD. CSSD is working on developing the draft static data set for phase one metric data. There was further discussion on the breakdown of demographics and race, as well as future opportunities for review and feedback.

**Brief Overview of Upcoming 2022 JJPOC Recommendation**

During the next few months, the workgroups will be putting together recommendations for the JJPOC to consider come January 2022. Through the vetting process, the subgroups are working on collecting data reviewing research and getting feedback from different community members and other stakeholders. The December meetings for the JJPOC and its Executive Committee will be dedicated to preliminary presentations of these draft recommendations and discussion.

The Diversion Workgroup will repropose raising the minimum age to 12 and funding the Community-Based Diversion System. They are also completing a report on alternatives to arrest, which is due January 1, 2022. The Incarceration Workgroup has been reviewing commissary needs for the 18–21-year-old population in DOC facilities and will be making recommendations in a formal report to the JJPOC. DOC is also drafting a report regarding chemical agents, which includes types and frequency of training, instances where chemical agents have been used, and what kind of research they’ve been doing on alternatives to chemical agents. CSSD will also be submitting a report regarding their plan to consolidate the services of pre-trial youth from DOC to CSSD. The Education Committee is focused on their report regarding alternatives to suspension and expulsions of students in pre-K through 2nd grade. There may also be minor legislative changes to the DCF Operational Plan regarding educational oversight of students in justice facilities. The Community Expertise Workgroup is going to repropose their recommendation to increase the JJPOC membership by two community members and two youth with first and secondhand justice system involvement. The RED workgroup is also reproposing their pedestrian stop data collection recommendation. This recommendation was worked on with the Racial Profiling Advisory Board to define “pedestrian stop” and more details regarding the data platforms. The RED workgroup will also work on drafting a recommendation related to standardizing SROs since there is a lot of variability across the state on how SROs are used.

**Next Meeting: December 16, 2021, 2:00-4:00pm**