

## WORKGROUP:

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

## GENDER RESPONSIVNESS WORKGROUP

- a. Public Act 14-217 Sec. 79 insert (k): no later than January 1, 2024 there shall be the creation of a Gender Responsiveness Workgroup created in partnership with Trafficking in Persons Council (TIPC), responsible for:
  - i. Creating a landscape analysis and conducting a gap assessment of gender responsive work in the state; no later than January 1, 2025
    - 1. Define what is meant by gender responsive and what makes a practice gender responsive
    - 2. Hear from youth, families, and communities directly impacted
    - 3. Review national best practices approaches, service types, and system considerations
    - 4. Review past work and legislation on gender responsiveness
    - 5. Identify gaps resulting from system/program changes.
    - Review existing work and practices on gender responsiveness among agencies and community providers
    - 7. Review data, broken down by race and ethnicity, gender, age, location, and level of system involvement (type of offense/ judicial handling).
  - ii. Collaboratively develop a framework for reporting, collecting, and distributing police data on human trafficking.
    - TYJI collaborate with TIPC and generate regular analysis and reports for data collected, received, and reported to TIPC or through JJPOC Gender Responsiveness Workgroup regarding human trafficking.
  - iii. Compile a set of legislative and or policy recommendations for JJPOC and TIPC to consider.
    - Recommendations for improvements to the continuum of care that include trauma informed and culturally informed approaches, services, treatment, and permanency models for girls and include:
      - a. Continuity of clinical support across a continuum of placement/treatment settings.
      - Specialized treatment foster care for girls who have experienced sexual abuse and/or domestic minor sex trafficking, including

children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. c. Specialized training for direct care providers and treatment providers. d. Consistent and constant source of support (e.g., peer mentor, therapist) for the young person. e. Programs and practices that are developed with the input of sexual abuse and trafficking survivors. f. Service and treatment setting options that specifically address the needs of children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. g. Examination of successful treatment/support models from other jurisdictions to inform service enhancement in CT. h. Supports for youth who identify as trans or gender non-conforming i. Diversion options through JORB or other diversion models j. Quality assurance framework/monitoring framework iiii. The Gender Responsiveness Workgroup and Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Committee will share information on gender responsive practices and policies for youth with child welfare involvement. **WORKGROUP:** RECOMMENDATION: Public institutions of higher education (including community colleges, EDUCATION WORKGROUP professional and technical schools) in the state of Connecticut shall not request nor require information from applicants regarding their school disciplinary history for the purpose of admission. WORKGROUP: RECOMMENDATION: 1. Mentorship (e.g., credible messengers, reintegration mentors) will be expanded to serve interested youth reentering from DOC. INCARCERATION JBCSSD facilities, and contracted programs. This support will be WORKGROUP available to youth for up to 24 months from the time of release. REENTRY SUBGROUP

- 2. JBCSSD and DOC will ensure that youth, prior to reentering from juvenile-serving facilities or contracted programs, will have started, and whenever possible, completed job readiness and/or career training programs with imbedded industry-recognized credentials, certifications, or licenses. The facility or contracted program will collaborate with the youth and coordinating entity to support the youth in seeking, and whenever possible finding, employment prior to release and sustaining employment after release.
- 3. The JJPOC Reentry Subgroup will continue to meet, with the continued participation of CSDE, DCF, DOC, JBCSSD, DOL, DSS, DMHAS, and DOH to complete the Quality Assurance Framework and Funding Sections of the 2023 Reentry Success Plan.