

Connecticut Juvenile Training School
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes, 2/3/15

Present: Karl Alston, Deputy Director, CSSD; Abby Anderson, Executive Director, Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance; Debra Bond, JCTS Clinical Director; William H. Carbone, Senior Lecturer and Director of Experiential Education, University of New Haven; Francis Carino, Supervising Assistant State's Attorney; Liz D'Amico, Ph.D., LCSW Behavioral Health Clinical Director; Antonio DePina, DCF Parole Services; Sam Gray, CEO Boys and Girls Club; Steven Kant, M.D., President and Chief Operating Officer, Boys and Girls Village; Joette Katz, DCF Commissioner; Kristy Ramsey, CJTS Assistant Superintendent; Christine Rapillo, Director of Juvenile Delinquency Defense and Child Protection, Public Defender's Office; William Rosenbeck, CJTS Superintendent; Ann Smith, JD, MBA, Executive Director, AFCAMP

Attorney Carino acknowledged that with members present, a quorum was established. Meeting began with introductions.

Review / Approve December Meeting Minutes

The December meeting minutes were accepted as written. Mr. Rosenbeck informed the group that he recently met with the Student Council members and they are excited to join a future meeting.

Review / Approve Advisory Board By-Laws

The board reviewed the by-laws. Atty. Bruckman's and Carino's comments were accepted. It was clarified that the board will meet five times a year including a special meeting in January for the purpose of approving the annual report. With those corrections, the board approved the by-laws. They will be sent to member electronically once corrected.

Review / Approve Legislative Report

The report has a lot of information but it is not easy to find. Mr. Rosenbeck stated that internally we use this data to inform our practice. The members suggested data be presented on a six month basis rather than by calendar year which will help guide the members with this report. All agreed that the statutes be reviewed on what is required and create a more useful and effective report. Elements of this report can be tools that board members can use in the community and the Commissioner can use in her work with the legislature. It was suggested that the Chairperson of this Board send out communication to board members to get the conversation and thought process started on what elements are important, for what type of audience and in what format. The areas of importance are public safety, education, economic and are we making the youth self-sufficient within families and the community. It is also recommended that

this report be shared with JJPOC. Commissioner will use it in her testimony at the Children's Committee Hearing.

Mr. Carbone shared that the research currently in progress and which will be presented to the JJPOC will reflect that we are very close to have a data system in place that CSSD uses. We will be able to see if the youth attend school, have jobs and make better decisions. Also we are close to having a definition of recidivism. Commissioner Katz stated that oftentimes the youth that come into the juvenile justice system are the kids that we didn't get to sooner on the protective service side and it could be that they just were not diagnosed properly.

We recently changed the process of who is coming into CJTS. Historically if a youth violated some condition of their parole but not necessarily committed new crimes, they were brought to CJTS. Now the population is very different with the new reentry process no youth gets back unless they get commissioner's approval.

The recommendations for DCF by the Board are:

- Review the legislative requirement for this report as well as the format for reporting it in order to make it a more effective and useful tool;
- The report be part of the JJPOC process;
- The board to receive data identified for the report every six months;
- The discontinuation of transportation is a critical issue and appears related to a drop in family participation. The Department to look for ways to facilitate family engagement.

The board accepted all changes in the report and the recommendations.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Next meeting dates:

March 24, 2015

June 16, 2015

October 6, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Irene Yanaros