

WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

June 6-7, 2013 • Casper, WY

Agenda:

Thursday, June 6, 2013

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- Budget Report
- New Business
- Community Participation
- On-Going Business
- Committee Meetings
- Community Participation

Friday, June 7, 2013

- Call to Order
- Committee Reports
- Announcements
- Adjournment

Present:

Allison Anderson
Shad Bates
Lynn Davies
Don Rardin
Susan Cahill
Les Pozsgo
Judge Brown
Beth Evans
Paul Jenkins
Neal Madson
Donna Sheen
Adrienne Freng

Via Proxy

Dawnessa Snyder
Rene Kemper
Char Edwards
Gary Gilmore
Steve Gilmore
Clint Robinson

Ex-Officio Present

Merit Thomas
Christina McCabe

Others Present

Paul Fritzier
Debby Lynch
Chuck Kratz
Rachel Campbell
Kelly Smario
Craig Fisgus

Absent

Bryan Skoric
Alice Russler
Shaina Ute

Sunny Goggles
Mackenzie Coyne
James Whiting
Kim Sherman
Moriah Flores
Clarence Thomas
Debra Dugan-Doty
Narina Nunez
JoAnn Numoto
Dorina Kemper
Jim Pond
Jim Whalen

I. Call to Order: Thursday, June 6, 2013, 8:00 a.m.

- a) Roll Call
- b) Declaration of Quorum: 16
- c) Reordering of Agenda

II. Approval of Minutes - April 4-5, 2013

Donna Sheen motioned and Judge Brown seconded to approve minutes. Minutes accepted by unanimous vote.

III. Budget Report

- a) Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG)
Grants committee will be reviewing to approve funding for 2012 that starts July 1st.
- b) Title V Community Prevention Grant – Ends 9/2013
- c) Title II State Advisory Group Award
- d) Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) – DOH – ends 5/2013

This program has had some budget cuts. Funding comes from OJJDP. Cut by Congress and no longer exists. FY 2012 \$4-500,000 was cut.

IV. New Business (continued if needed)

a) CJJ Conference

Handouts to review. States are dropping out due to decrease in SACJJ funding. Next fall would like to really examine what it can offer us and if we want to continue this membership.

Other states pay \$5,000 for their dues. Provide great technical advice. Will come and do a youth training for free, should take advantage of this now.

b) JDAI System Assessment

Casey Family Program would like us to be more active. Governors group, Health and Human Services Policy Team will take over as the JDAI Steering Committee. This group could bridge the gap between the communities and the state. The eight course strategies are: Community Collaboration, Data Collection, Uniform Risk Assessment, Conditions of Confinement, Special Case Processing, Over-Representations, Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), Expediting Case Processing, Alternatives to Detention with Alternatives to Care.

Subcommittee working on risk assessment, looking at tool and implementing it better around definitions and when it should be applied. Campbell and Fremont County reports are undergoing some changes, should have final report anytime. Laramie County is in draft form. Informal statewide suggestions are to be drafted up. This would be helpful to Council. Still not getting all of the forms and they are inconsistent. Governor's office is very supportive in this process.

Handout from Craig will be included as an attachment with minutes.

c) Joint Judiciary Meeting on May 13th and 14th

Would like proposed legislation by July, report and response to Governor as well. We should be striving hard to meeting the goals of JJDPA.

After committee meetings today we will have a clearer picture of what our recommendations will be to the Governor.

d) New Committee Chairs

V. Community Participation – Presentation

Brian Christiansen – Natrona County Deputy Attorney

Handouts provided from Handel Corporation.

Others presenting: Amy Dormer, Stacy Nelson, Timothy O'Daniel, Evan Brandt and Tiffany Payne.

VI. Lunch

Shad Bates motioned to adjourn for lunch, Allison Anderson seconded.

VII. On-Going Business

a) Governor's Office (Merit Thomas, Policy Analyst)

Judge Hartman will no longer serve as the JDAI contact for DFS.

Currently there are statewide and community initiatives on suicide prevention along with anti-bully campaign. Refuge center is being established. Homelessness efforts are trying to be established as well as funding.

Establish response to the Governor and then share it with the Joint Judiciary July 19-20th in Lusk.

b) Non-Participating State Grant Update (VOA)

Craig Fisgus – Handout distributed

Debbye Lynch – Talked about compliance monitoring, we will need to revisit a few sites.

Table recidivism until tomorrow when it is discussed in our groups.

Statewide survey conducted by Kratz and Freng in Laramie, Sweetwater and Fremont Counties on DMC and distributed to community juvenile service boards.

9 contact points: will be sent out via Craig to the Council.

c) Ex-Officio Members

d) DFS Update (Paul Yaksic and Steve Corsi) – Not attending.

e) Other Updates

VIII. Committee Meetings

IX. Community Participation

Wyoming Advocates for Youth (WAY) – not participating

X. Adjournment for the day

Friday, June 7, 2013

XI. Call to Order

XII. Committee Reports

a) OJJDP

The SACJJ does not endorse attaining participating state status, at this time. However, the SACJJ strongly supports and promotes the 4 core protections and will continue to do so. Therefore, the SACJJ requests that the Governor issue a proclamation endorsing the 4 core protections as best practices in the state of Wyoming and that all relevant youth services agencies be signatories to same.

Any person can apply for non-participating funding; this is separate from the CJJ funding. Also how confident are we that DFS will pick this up? There is risk in doing this. The core protections are very important to us. It would be hard for OJJDP to walk away. It wouldn't be hard to add into OJJDP in the future.

Funding should be pretty stable. Consider that the director of DFS won't be around forever what risk are we taking going forward?

Governor is asking what the benefits of continuing are and what aren't?

Duties would shift from Craig to the state if we don't participate.

After discussion with state leaders there is no agreement to become a participating state at this point.

49 states participate. We used to at one point participate. Money has become minuscule.

At this point in we aren't going to move forward with participating but we want to keep the core values.

Now is not the time to endorse participatory status. Endorse the four core principals and maybe in the future work towards it.

Take out no value in the statement for recommendation; we are exactly where we were. We support your 4 core principals but we are not there yet.

*Bob Mayor – motion to adopt the statement with no value to submit to Governor. Paul Jenkins 2nd the motion. We do not endorse participation. Amended by Andrienne Freng, all in favor, 2 opposed (Beth Evans and Bob Mayor) Motion passed.

b) Leveraging Resources

Sent email to DFS requesting information about CJSB. DFS sent contact for CJSB's. Sent footnote study and budget update with information they were looking for. Have decided to not make specific recommendations on programs, let the counties govern that as it varies from county to county. Five recommendations:

1. Establish and obtain good data as soon as possible to ensure decisions surrounding funding allocations will be based on actual positive outcomes.
2. At a minimum, counties will have reasonable access to these essential services:
 - a) Primary Prevention for At-Risk children and families
 - b) Diversion programming
 - c) Emergency mental health services
 - d) Crisis shelter services

State resources should be prioritized to ensure the existence of these core services.

3. Better support and oversight of CJSB funding, ensuring applications and allocations reflect the purpose of the early identification and diversion of children at risk of entry into the juvenile court system and preventing juvenile delinquency.
4. Statewide collaborative meetings of CJSB representative should be held to discuss strengths, concerns and resource leveraging.
5. The SACJJ will provide CJSB's with a forum for input, assistance and information sharing. The SACJJ must better meet our statutory obligation to recommend an equitable funding formula for distribution of funds to CJSB's though participating more in the application review and award decisions.

Goal is to tell the Governor this is the map and this is where we are headed. Need to bring Best Practices into this as well. Are we all in agreement with that? Donna Sheen motioned to adopt recommendations as read and include supplemental materials and a summary of general committee discussion.

Donna amending motion and incorporate into larger response with clarifying info to make it a go. Allison Anderson seconded motioned.

Donna Sheen retracted motion to use Allison Anderson's motion to move forward with 5 points, 2nd by Allison Anderson. All in favor, agreed.

c) Recidivism

Any subsequent criminal charge, including adjudication. Craig is working on this same project in Sweetwater County and we wanted to make sure we were on the same page. Cut off should be 18. How long should this period go on for? Average time would be 2 years. Longer you extend the time the worse the recidivism rates could be. 2 years would be a relative time to collect data for Wyoming.

Governor wants the rates but need to agree on a definition in order to get the rate. Need to define it before we can evaluate it.

Reference to AG Opinion about the definition of recidivism. We can develop our own definition of recidivism. The Opinion is very specific and limited. Want to be sure due process isn't thrown out the window. There needs to be a definition that is left with no interpretation, could be broken down to major and minor recidivism and at different levels.

What are the effected programs and how do we put our energy back into that? Recidivism is one source of measure. We use it because it's the easiest to measure. Accomplishments should be weighed more heavily than recidivism .

The Governor's Office may have a more defined definition. Merit Thomas will check on that and get back to us.

Reentering the system at the same level or higher, Bob Mayor's general definition, generally accepted.

Retune to divide it between behavioral issues and criminal issues. Stay with broad one, with same level or higher. Overall definition, not specific to schools. Governor, how many are repeat offenders, not getting it the first time that program isn't working. 2-years definition with same level or higher and work on the broad level.

Motion by Adrienne Freng to respond to Governor; indicate to look at recidivism rates, within 2-years or the age of the majority with same or higher level of care and we utilize that definition to look at the same recidivism rates at various points. 2nd by Kris Smith. Motion passes.

d) Data

With data we need to have more accurate stats, pulling one could be misleading. As a Council we have different perspectives. We need to put our personal agendas aside to come together to provide services to Wyoming for the better of our children's and families. There are times when data is used to prove a point, which is not completely accurate data. OJJDP can be partially to blame for this. Communication starts progress.

Some states have incentives. Need a clearer tracking on where the money is coming from and how it is being expended. Part of the biggest problem in the Leveraging Resources.

CJJ is even having trouble obtaining data information from Wyoming and has tried for years.

Cautious of what they can share on juveniles. Communities are paranoid about the info and what they share and what is says about their community. Need to streamline what we can share so we are all on the same page. Best practices are only Best Practices when handled with fidelity.

Data Recommendations:

We recommend supporting the Handel system as developed and implemented by Natrona County:

- a. Handel would be responsible for initial and annual training.
- b. They would house the data.
- c. The data entry point would be the single point of entry designee or their designee.
- d. It is estimated based on Natrona County estimates that this data collection process would take up to 10% of the time for the program administrator.
- e. Each county would need to designate an administrator, as well as one other person that would serve as a back-up person.

- f. It is important to note that this would be a transfer of duties, not an expansion of duties. Counties are already collecting and entering data and would continue to do so, just in a new data collection system.

Data to be collected:

- a. At this point, we would support the current data collection variables and definitions, but would recommend that the SACJJ work in collaboration with Brian Christensen to identify any additional data elements that might be instrumental at a state wide level.
- b. For the statewide data system, we suggest using the drug court data system as a model of dealing with various different charges and their definitions based on municipal code and state statute.
- c. Recommend that Enterprise Technology Services serves as the operational and appropriations agency for this data system.
- d. As part of their responsibilities and with the approval of the steering committee, this agency would host a staff member who has the appropriate technical and analytical skills to serve as the state administrator of the data system. This individual would be responsible for working together with counties to verify data, would serve as the clearinghouse for any data requests, and would be tasked with providing an annual statewide report to the Governor's Office, the counties, the State Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice, Joint Judiciary committee, and any other agency/constituency deemed appropriate.
- e. This staff person could not be employed by any of the agencies involved in the juvenile justice process in order to maintain neutrality.

Recommend that the Governor appoints a steering committee consisting of a designee from the following entities:

- a. The state advisory council on juvenile justice,
- b. Representatives from all branches of law enforcement,
- c. District/Prosecuting attorneys,
- d. Operators of juvenile detention facilities,
- e. Supreme court data division and representatives from municipal, circuit, and district courts,
- f. The departments of family services, education, health, and corrections, and
- g. Any entities collecting juvenile justice information under state and/or federal grants.
- h. This steering committee would be responsible for approving any changes to the statewide system and approving the statewide administrator.

Cost:

- a. The initial cost of the system to get all the counties on board would be:
- b. The yearly costs associated with maintaining this system would be:
- c. The annual costs associated with training for this system would be:
- d. This would be covered through legislative appropriations.
- e. Costs for the system would be covered by the state, but any additional information that counties wanted collected would be paid by them.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the existing statute regarding juvenile justice information systems (7-19-501) be removed and a new statute covering the following topics be written:

- a. Counties are responsible for providing this information to the statewide data system.
- b. That participation in this system be tied to current funding sources, such as CJSB.
- c. Definitions related to various elements of the data information system
- d. Access to electronic records
- e. Expungement

Motion to accept data committee Paul Jenkins, Les Pozsgy 2nd. All in agreement, motion passed.

XIII. Announcements

Very proud of this group and the progress we have made, thank you.

Lynne Davies announced this is her last meeting and it has been great working with everyone. Beth Evans also announced she will not be seeking re-appointment.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Shad Bates, 2nd by Adrienne Freng. Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.