

# WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

## Meeting Minutes

June 23-24, 2022: Evanston, WY

### Agenda:

#### **Thursday, June 23, 2022**

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- New Business
- Ongoing Business
- Committee Reports

#### **Friday, June 24, 2022**

- DFS Update/Report
- Community Participation
- Announcements
- Adjournment

#### **Present:**

Adrienne Freng  
Alexandra Bammel  
Damon DeBernardi  
Erica Wood  
Jennifer Palser  
Karen Solomon  
Logan Christie  
Narina Nunez  
Nicole Hauser  
Nikki Sweets  
Stacy Becker

#### **Ex-Officio Present:**

Alicia Johnson  
Cameron Smith  
Jen Davis  
Shawn Sitzman

#### **Via Proxy:**

Brittany Cangialosi  
Stacy Nelson

#### **Others Present:**

Brandon Schimelpfenig  
Byron Oedekoven (WASCOP)  
Gus Bloomfield (Uinta Cty.)  
Kelsey Giroux (SFSW)  
John DeWitt (UT DRAT)  
Brooke Benson (BBBS)  
Michelle Tholl (DFS)  
Donna Sheen (WCLC)  
Ariel Colmes (Uinta Cty.)  
Eric Williams (Uinta Cty.)  
Lauretta Howieson-Kallas  
(Uinta Cty.)  
Lindsey Schilling (DFS)

#### **Absent:**

Abbey Kercher  
Chris Jones  
Clarence Thomas  
Dakota Jackson  
Gabriel Gerrish  
Janelle Ordiway  
Lila Konecky  
Melinda Cox  
Ronald Howard  
Shad Bates  
Steffany Stephenson

### **Call to Order**

#### **I. Call to Order: Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

- a) Roll Call/Introductions
- b) Declaration of Quorum; a quorum was established with 13 members present.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes:**

April 14-15, 2022 meeting held in Dubois; Narina Nunez motioned to approve the draft minutes; Stacy Becker seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

#### **III. New Business:**

- a) Annual Report Recommendations

Damon requested that all SACJJ members think of some items to add to the 2022 Annual Report to the Governor and present them at the upcoming September meeting in Rawlins.

b) DRAT Presentation with State of Utah

John DeWitt, Bureau Director for Research and Evaluation for the Utah Department of Health and Human Services Juvenile Justice and Youth Services, presented via Zoom the Utah Detention Risk Assessment Tool (DRAT). He stated that the instrument is embedded in their case management system and is entirely electronic. After the presentation, John fielded questions from the SACJJ.

c) Neal Madsen Award

Damon requested input from the SACJJ on how the Council would like to proceed with the Neal Madsen Award as Volunteers of America (VOA) is no longer the recipient of the Non-Participating State Grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. As VOA is no longer the recipient of the grant, the juvenile justice data that VOA collected is no longer available to assist with gauging what county in Wyoming should receive the annual Neal Madsen award. Erica Wood with the Outreach Committee stated that the committee had discussed options during the interim and shared those thoughts with the SACJJ. Damon stated that this will continue to be an ongoing discussion in future meetings to decide the best way to gather data and award the Neal Madsen Award.

d) Review Strategic Plan

Tabled until the next meeting in September.

e) Open Topic Discussion from Members

Jen Palser brought forth a topic discussing that the local Sheridan CJSB has run into an issue regarding one of the requirements on the CJSB application. She stated there is a requirement for CJSBs to use a uniform screening assessment tool in their area. Previously, the Sheridan CJSB used the same assessment as the Sheridan County DFS office however the local DFS office has since moved to a different assessment that is within the DFS case management system leaving the local CJSB to use a different assessment. Jen wanted to see what other areas are using. Nicole Hauser stated that Steve Hamaker with Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters utilizes the PACT Assessment.

f) Public Comment Period

No topics brought forth.

**IV. On-Going Business – Updates From:**

a) Council Membership – Brandon Schimelpfenig

Brandon stated there were no updates to report.

b) Governor's Office – Jen Davis

Jen was present via Zoom. Jen stated that the Governor has taken an official stance against the Safer Communities Act recently passed by Congress on the grounds that it makes it more difficult for law abiding citizens to obtain firearms in Wyoming. Jen wanted to get the SACJJ's input on how the data collection aspect of the Safer Communities Act would affect Wyoming. Narina stated that the SACJJ would need to look at the Safer Communities Act language more closely and then provide a response back to Jen. Jen also noted the mental health gaps in services throughout the state for juveniles.

c) Budget Report/Grant Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig

Brandon stated that Title II 2018 has \$0.36 remaining. Title II 2019 has a remaining balance of \$5,419.04 and Title II 2020 still has \$20,000.00 remaining. Brandon stated that he is still waiting on the award notification from OJJDP on Title II 2021.

The solicitation for Title II 2022 was just released by OJJDP. Grants.gov registration is due Tuesday, July 19, 2022 and all application materials are due in JustGrants and Compliance Monitoring Tool (CMT) on Friday August 2, 2022.

d) Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ) - Maureen Clifton and Brandon Schimelpfenig

No updates.

**V. Committee Reports**

a) Executive Committee – Damon DeBernardi

Damon stated that the committee met before the Evanston meeting. No further updates.

b) Grants Committee – Damon DeBernardi

No updates.

c) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng

Adrienne was not present however Narina provided an update. Narina stated that they are working on suggestions for revisions to the JDRA.

d) Best Practices Committee – Stacy Nelson

Stacy was not present however Erica Wood provided an update. She stated that they did not meet in the interim however they discussed meetings to meet with counties in Wyoming to discuss best practices that the counties are currently doing and then making a repository so that other counties can access best practice information as well. Erica also discussed adding the National Clearinghouse list as well.

e) Outreach/Youth Committee – Erica Wood, Dakota Jackson

Erica stated that they met during the interim and discussed the Neal Madsen award presentation. Erica highlighted that the committee created a list of youth organizations around the state.

- f) Legislative Committee – Damon DeBernardi  
Damon stated he has not seen any upcoming juvenile justice bills in the Wyoming Legislature but he said that he would like to soon have the committee meet to discuss HB0038.

### **Friday, June 24, 2022**

#### **VI. DFS Update/Report – Lindsey Schilling**

Lindsey Schilling, Senior Administrator for the Social Services Division within the Department of Family Services (DFS), was present via Zoom to discuss juvenile justice updates within the agency. Lindsey started off by highlighting the Legislature funding a full replacement of the Department of Family Services' case management system. She also stated that the job position for the new juvenile justice data analyst position has been posted publicly and the agency is currently reviewing applications. She stated that the deadline to have the new juvenile justice data collection system up and running is July 1, 2024. She also highlighted the Community Juvenile Services Boards and the reform efforts starting to take place within the agency as well as with juvenile justice stakeholders statewide.

#### **VII. Community Participation**

##### a) Uinta County DFS

Michelle Tholl, District Manager for the Department of Family Services for Judicial District 3, was present to discuss trends that the local DFS office is seeing. She stated that there are currently 12 probation cases and that all of her workers are cross-trained in child protection as well as juvenile services and adult protection.

##### b) Uinta County CJSB

Lauretta Howieson-Kallas, Uinta County Prosecuting Attorney, Gus Bloomfield, Uinta County Youth Services Coordinator, and Eric Williams, former Uinta County Youth Services Coordinator, were present to discuss juvenile justice trends and services in Uinta County. Gus started the presentation by stating that during April-June 2022 there were 48 referrals to Uinta County Youth Services. Lauretta also highlighted that the Wyoming Highway Patrol has started funneling all youth vehicle speeding citations to the local juvenile services board; she stated that started in February 2022. She also highlighted that the local school district has a zero-tolerance policy for underage substance abuse. She then wanted the SACJJ to know that even though the CJSB funding ceased in 2021, the Uinta County Commissioners wanted the local CJSB to continue so CJSB costs were picked up by Uinta County. Lauretta mentioned that one thing that the county is missing that she wishes they had is juvenile substance treatment

options as well as an at-risk juvenile housing facility such as a crisis shelter. She also mentioned that Uinta County needs a juvenile detention facility that is more accessible for housing juveniles when secure facilities are needed.

c) 2021 Neal Madsen Award

Uinta County was awarded the 2021 Neal Madsen Excellence in Juvenile Justice Award.

**VIII. Announcements**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 15-16, 2022 in Rawlins, WY.

**IX. Adjournment**

Narina Nunez motioned to adjourn the meeting; Stacy Becker seconded the motion; all in favor; meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.