

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Wyoming Boys' School
Worland, Wyoming
June 25 and 26, 1998

Minutes

Council Members Present:

Doreen Thunder, Pat Crow, Sharon Mann, Ben Silliman, Tom Harrington, Chuck Kratz, Bob Mayor, Nena James, Narina Nunez, Lynn Dickey, John Frentheway, Kathy Hutchison

Others Attending:

Shirley Carson, Director, Dept. of Family Services
Bob Kuchera, Deputy Director, Dept. of Family Services
Les Pozsgi, Administrator, Div. of Juvenile Services
Renee Arias, Management Analyst, Div. of Juvenile Services
Ed Goetz, Dept. of Education
Dan Derezinski, Univ. of Wyoming, Sociology Department

Unable to Attend:

Michelle Wempen, Ric Paul, Steve Lindly, Val Seidel, Pat Nagel, Carol Crump
Ron Carson, Mark Harris, Gary Hartman, Patrick Lynch, Sara Washington

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Wyoming Boys' School Presentation and Tour - John Kiedrowski.

Opening Remarks - Shirley Carson.

Welcome - Bob Mayor, Chairperson.

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m.

Review of Juvenile Programs within Washakie County - Tom Harrington

Minutes: Ben Silliman's name should be removed from the Statutory Committee. After this correction the minutes from the previous SACJJ meeting, held April 2 and 3, 1998, were approved.

Old Business:

Youth Nominations The Council must include five youth representatives. The Council is presently short two members with another representative resigning in the Fall. Sharon Mann suggested Jeannie Martinez be nominated to represent the Cheyenne area (District 1). Representation is needed for Districts 1, 3, and 6.

Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) Update OJJDP acknowledged receipt of the application for this grant on May 27, 1998. Graduated sanctions and expanding juvenile record-keeping requirements are associated with this grant and requires review by the Joint Judiciary Committee.

Renee provided handouts for the Council's review. Please refer to the following attachments.

- A Juvenile Justice System for the 21st Century.
- Letter to Bilchik from Governor Geringer dated May 11, 1998, regarding Certifications for the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant.
- OJJDP Program Plan Funding Announcements.

FY98 Formula Funding A motion was made to notify the Governor that the Council recommend to forfeit this funding, due to OJJDP requiring a monitoring and compliance process to be in place by August 31, 1998. The motion passed.

Title V Funding Discussion The Department, at the Council's recommendation, would be the entity responsible for applying for this funding. The local units of Government would be responsible for verifying compliance with the core requirements. A motion was made to inform the Governor that the Council recommends accepting the Title V funding. The motion passed.

OJJDP delayed the Non-participating State Announcement due to South Dakota choosing to no longer participate. This funding should be available after July 1st to local communities who are working toward being in compliance with OJJDP Core Requirements.

New Business:

JAIBG Formula Based Allocation A handout was provided explaining how the JAIBG allocations of funding will be distributed to each of the Counties. The JAIBG Technical Support Center will provide the information after July 19, 1998. The Grant Review Committee will review this handout.

Combating Underage Drinking Program Administration of this grant will be the responsibility of the Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division. For more information contact our liaison, Jean DeFratis, at 777-6494.

Update Web page The Web page will be updated with the revised Strategic Plan and Council Roster after this Council meeting. Additions will be the statewide directory, grants/funding process, and other pertinent information.

Outline Accomplishments. Each committee will provide a verbal update of its accomplishments at the June 26, 1998 meeting.

Delinquency Prevention Committee Report - Narina Nunez

The following handouts were presented and reviewed by the Council:

- Preventing Crime, Saving Children: Sticking to the Basics
- Pathway Model for Overt, Covert, and Authority Conflict
- Model Delinquency Prevention Programs
- Principles that should guide delinquency prevention programming
- Delinquency Prevention

Early Childhood Development Council - Renee Arias

Renee attended the first organizational meeting. SACJJ will need to select a liaison to contact this Council.

Senate File 10 CRS Report from Congress - Renee Arias. A copy of the Senate File 10 was provided to the Council members for information only.

Youth Services Committee Report - Lynn Dickey

Lynn introduced Dan Derezinski who is in the process of developing the statewide directory.

University of Wyoming's Intern/Directory Progress Report - Dan Derezinski reported that Big Horn, Albany, and Fremont counties were the initial counties identified by Division of Juvenile Services to begin the inventory. Fremont County is completed.

Handout. SACJJ Agency report sheet. The Council was asked to complete a Juvenile Services Directory information page and return it to Dan by the end of the meeting on June 26, 1998.

Sub-committee Reports:

Statutes Committee - Chuck Kratz

Ideas for statute changes are beginning to surface. John Frenthway provided a list of a few changes that could be reviewed:

- collateral information provided (timeline) when youth are placed
- early intervention with the family
- areas of the law to address how services are provided to youth
- diversionary process (to bridge the gap)

- follow-up after a youth leaves a facility
- blending of existing law

A discussion of the CHINS and status offense statute followed. From this discussion the Council noted there is a lack of enforcement from the city/municipal to the county/district court level.

John Frentheway motioned to write a letter to the Governor to ask the Legislature to remove the sunset clause for the CHINS statute and state the following reasons:

1. The CHINS statute is the way to enforce (with any ethics) and require kids up to 16 years old to be in school;
2. Many juveniles will not get the services of the court, unless CHINS exists; and
3. The CHINS statute reinforces parental authority.

Motion passed.

The other Committees were asked to contact the Statutory Committee regarding other statutory concerns.

Grant Review Committee - Pat Crow

Now that the Council has a budget it is necessary to determine an entity to grant expenditures. Pat Crow motioned that requests of significant expenditures be submitted to the budget committee. This committee will be compiled of the officers and the three committee chairs. Motion passed.

OJJDP Workshop, July 14-16, 1998, in Washington, D.C. Pat Crow, Grant Review Chairperson, motioned that the Budget Committee approve sending him to the this workshop and a second part of the motion was to request DFS send Renee. Motion passed.

JAIBG Motion that the Council approve application for the administration fee under the JAIBG. Discussion: recommend that the cash matching funds come from the SACJJ general budget, and identify administrative costs that will be associated with this grant. Motion passed.

Technical Assistance Training for monitoring jail and detention center site visits is scheduled for Tuesday, June 30th in Cheyenne. Val Seidel, Renee Arias, and Bill Long (retired sheriff) will attend this workshop. The Council members were also invited.

DFS Director Comments:

Shirley Carson mentioned that the Governor is looking forward to receiving the letter and progress report from the Council. Arrangements would be made, sometime after July 15th, for the Council to attend the meeting with the Governor, if his schedule permits.

Inventory Committee - Ben Silliman. Ben provided a short summary of following handouts:

- National Network for Family Resiliency
- Building Better Child Care for America
- National Network for Collaboration
- National Network for Science & Technology

Joint Judiciary Committee (JJC) Report - Les Pozsgi

JAIBG Standards Specifically, record keeping was reviewed with the JJC. JJC instructed Les to find a sponsor for this legislation. The Department with Representative Pat Nagel as sponsor will draft the general language for the bill. Les discussed concerns regarding DNA testing on juveniles. The record keeping expanding criteria requires similar information on repeat juvenile offenders as provided for adult criminals. The information would be entered by DFS and piggybacked on the DCI system.

Direction provided by the Council to Les was to draft the legislation and the Council would review it and decide whether to proceed with the legislation.

Pilot Projects Eight proposals were received. A working group, composed of the Departments of Family Services, Health, and Education, came to a consensus on two pilot projects. The Governor's office will make the announcement next week on which communities were selected.

Discussion: The Council reviewed the SACJJ statute and the strategic plan which outlines their role in working with the pilot projects. Since the Council was not involved with the pilot project selection, it will seek direction and clarification from the Governor regarding their role with the selected communities.

The following departments allocated funds to be used for the pilot projects:

Family Services \$900,000; Health \$700,000; Education \$75,000.

June 26, 1998 - SACJJ meeting continued

Council's Accomplishments. The Council listed the following accomplishments be submitted in the letter to the Governor:

- Several Council members served on an Interview Committee to hire a staff person;
- Staff person completed the 1997 OJJDP State Juvenile Justice Specialist training;
- Developed 1998 Strategic Plan;
- Initiated a statewide inventory and directory on Delinquency Prevention, Youth Services, and Juvenile Justice systems;
- SACJJ membership list and 1998 Strategic Plan are available on DFS Web page. The Statewide Directory will also be available;
- Liaisons were recruited from the Departments of Health and Education to serve on the Council.
- Application was submitted and approved for the 5% State Advisory Group funding to assist with implementing the Council's Strategic Plan;
- The Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block grant (JAIBG) successfully submitted;
- Model prevention programs were identified and will be shared statewide;
- The SACJJ Opinion Poll Survey on Juvenile Detention was completed;
- Standards and criteria for placing juveniles in detention is currently being developed;
- Council representative and staff member completed a monitoring/compliance training;
- Initiated contact with Joint Judiciary Committee.

Committees Goals for next meeting:

Youth Services. The inventory of youth services in Wyoming communities has begun. Lynn will re-group youth reps. to discuss future goals.

Delinquency Prevention

- waiting on directory to see what prevention services are needed
- working on identifying model programs around the country
- working on developing a continuum of preventive services.

Statutory Committee John Frenthway has a list of statutes for his committee to revisit. A copy will provided at the next meeting.

Juvenile Justice Committee update Bob Mayor provided the following informational handouts to the Council. The first three handouts were produced by Val Seidel, Chairperson.

- Adjudicated Delinquents by County includes; percentage of delinquents booked and accused (refer to printed color map).
- Opinion Poll Summary Report by Val Seidel.
- Juveniles Held in County Jails 1/97-12/97. Bob reminded the Council that these statistics are low compared to neighboring states.

The Advisory Council members were asked to read the following articles prior to the Juvenile Justice Committee's report:

- Juvenile Detention as Process and Place
- 1994 Report to the Legislature, Commission on Juvenile Issues

These two articles led the discussion about defining and philosophy of detention, juvenile justice process and systems, and alternatives to building statewide detention facilities. The 1997 statistics on jailing juveniles is the same as the statistics listed in the 1994 Report to the Legislature. The length of stay has increased from 7.3 days in 1994 to 17.3 days in 1997.

The Juvenile Justice committee recommends the Council adopt the definition of detention and philosophy described in the Process/Place article, and use it in the report to the Governor regarding a Statewide Detention Plan.

Bob Mayor reported that the 1997 and 1994 statistics justify 30 beds statewide. This led to a discussion about developing a set a standards for Wyoming detention. An example would be to adopt a sight/sound separation with a list of services to be provided before placing a juvenile in a detention facility.

Kathy Hutchinson would like a copy of the proposal of alternatives that were submitted to the Legislature by Les.

Other items to be addressed in the letter to the Governor include direction on the Council's role regarding the selected pilot projects.

Training for Judges on juvenile justice process was requested by Nena James. The judges are scheduled to attend a conference in Cheyenne in September. This would be a good time to share information about juvenile court system and resources, i.e., Wyoming Boys' School or the Wyoming Girls' School. Nena suggested Les contact Louie Walworth to schedule time.

Summary for Juvenile Justice Committee. Bob summarized the following for the Juvenile Justice Committee to consider at their next meeting; enact jail standards, review long term solution facilities, and discuss a single point of entry process and possibilities of the lower courts availability to transfer to the juvenile system.

Committee Assignments:

Juvenile Justice Committee

- develop short-term and long-term detention plan
- order publication from ACA, Nebraska, and other states

Youth Services Committee

- assist with filling the vacancies for youth positions on the Council

Delinquency Prevention Committee

- Research proven prevention programs
- Continue to assure that prevention is not left out of the detention plan.

Goals for the remaining year:

- Lynn Dickey suggested the Council narrow in on areas where it can make a contribution.
- Narina Nunez asked the Council to focus on the idea of the continuum of services.
- The Council will discuss at the October 1 and 2, 1998, meeting whether to join OJJDP.
- Get a sponsor (Mark Harris, Pat Nagel, and Lynn Dickey can help) to repeal the CHINS bill, which sunsets in July 2000.
- For October meeting, provide the Governor direction on other legislation to address. This report will culminate all the committees and sub-committees objectives.
- Research and revise the SACJJ statute, if needed.
- Get the communities more familiar with the Council's role and accomplishments.
- Put a flyer together for Dan Derezinski to fax with the Inventory Request Forms.

Other Business: The Juvenile Justice Committee will meet August 3, 1998, 9:00 a.m., in Casper. Meeting location to be announced.

Next meeting: October 1 and 2, 1998, in Cheyenne

The meeting adjourned 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bibianne R. Bengston
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