

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE**  
**Laramie County Community College**  
**Cheyenne, Wyoming**  
**November 12 -14, 1997**  
**Minutes**

**Council Members Present:**

Ron Carson II, Youth Member, Cheyenne; Patrick Crow, Attorney, Newcastle; Carol Crump, City Council member, Casper; Lynn Dickey, Business person, Sheridan; John Frentheway, Attorney, Cheyenne; Mark Harris, State Senator, Green River; Kathy Hutchison, Associate Principal, Douglas; Nena James, Attorney, Rock Springs; Charles Kratz, Director, Youth Services, Lander; Patrick Lynch, Guidance Counselor, Buffalo; Robert Mayor, Director, St. Joseph's Children Home, Torrington; Narina Nightingale, Univ. of Wyoming; Ric Paul, Gillette Police Department; Valerie Seidel, WYSA Juvenile Justice Project, Cheyenne; Ben Silliman, Univ. of Wyoming; Doreen Thunder, School District Crisis Counselor, Cody; Sara Washington, Youth Member, Cheyenne.

**Others Attending:**

Shirley R. Carson, Director, Department of Family Services; Les Pozsgo, Administrator, Division of Juvenile Services; Merit Thomas, Senior Management Consultant; Cindy Knight, Director, Tri-County Group Home, Jackson; Carol Nelson, Washakie Co. Diversion Project, Worland; Richard Nelson, Youth Alternatives Home Association, Evanston; Donna Bownes, OJJDP Representative, Colorado; Allison Fleming, Representative, Iowa State Advisory Council; Loretta Willhard, Laramie Crisis Center.

**Unable to Attend:**

Thomas Harrington; Gary Hartman; Steve Lindly; Sharon Mann; Steven McGuire; Patricia Nagel; Jeremy Rose; Michelle Wempen.

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**November 12, 1997:**

**Opening Remarks, Welcome, Council Responsibilities.** Shirley Carson, Director, Department of Family Services, informed the Council that criteria for the Council was established during the last Legislative session. The Council is made up of members involved in all areas of the juvenile justice system throughout the State of Wyoming, and by statute is to meet not less than four times per year. The Council will provide additional resources through its viewpoints and knowledge. The purpose of the Council will be addressed by Governor Geringer on Thursday, November 13. The Council will have various tasks to do, such as establish philosophy, a mission statement, bylaws, and a strategic plan. This Council will serve as an avenue for communication and assist with community involvement. The Council may review service standards and bring recommendations to the Governor.

Introductions. Les Pozsgi, Administrator, Division of Juvenile Services.

Overview of the Department of Family Services. Shirley Carson. See Attachment One.

Strategic Plan. Les Pozsgi. See Attachment Two.

Overview of the Division of Juvenile Services. Les Pozsgi. See Attachment Three.

Council Tasks. Shirley Carson.

- The Council will elect a chairperson and a vice-chair person.
- DFS will provide administrative support services.
- A treasurer can be appointed.
- The Council will develop a strategic plan
  - Define goals
  - Set priorities
- Develop operational guidelines
- Provide recommendation on developing legislation
- Form task forces focusing on juvenile issues
- Provide recommendations to the Governor and Legislature
- The Council will be provided the opportunity to review Agency budgets

November 13, 1997:

Governor Geringer provided recognition of the level of expertise of the Council members and informed them of their charge (Attachment Four):

- emphasis on community-based services
- responsibility of family
- responsibility of community
- responsibility of the state
- endorsed restorative justice and importance of victim participation
- accountability for offending behavior
- community assessment and development of a coordinated system
- prevention, intervention, and treatment

Community Juvenile Services Boards. Les Pozsgi. Community Juvenile Services Boards represent one of six juvenile justice issues identified and sponsored by the Executive Office during the last legislative session. Please refer to Attachment Five for copy of the statute. This statute focuses on assisting community-based development and enhancement of services for youth at risk of coming under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. It speaks to the process of service development by way of a community board and funding for services through a block grant program. Broad parameters for services are delineated but the importance of service decisions occurring at the local level is a fundamental concept.

Provision for not more than three pilot projects is included in this statute. Time period of pilot authorization is July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1999. The Departments of Health,

Education and Family Services are charged with the responsibility for promulgating rules and regulations to carry out these pilots (please refer to Section 10 for copy of draft rules) and funding not to exceed five million dollars from the budgets of the three Departments can be redirected by the Governor for use by the pilot projects.

The State Advisory Council is tied to this focus on community development on several levels and include:

- review of juvenile justice planning
- assist communities in the formation of community service boards
- recommend funding formula for grant funds
- assist in community assessments
- review budgets

The pilot projects will also provide information valuable in the decision making process regarding CHINS. Presently, the draft rules are in the 45 day comment period and focus of the assessment, strategic analysis and planning process communities must conduct if selected as pilot projects. Service system design for the pilot projects must include fiscal management, single point for service entry, data collection and analysis. Performance based standards are included within the proposed rules and regulations.

Juvenile Justice Projects Panel Presentations. Val Seidel, Chuck Kratz, Carol Nelson, Richard Nelson, Cindy Knight, Loretta Willhard. See Attachment Six for handouts from the various presenters.

Restorative Justice: Represents juvenile justice philosophy endorsed by DFS and supported by the Governor. See Attachment Seven.

OJJDP Presentation. Donna Bownes. See OJJDP orientation packet (Attachment Eight).

Program Overview. OJJDP provides most juvenile justice funding. It is an agency within the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.

An Applications booklet is published on an annual basis. This booklet lists information on all types of grants available. Of interest to Wyoming may be the Formula Grant. There is a data evaluation tool available; this can help secure funding.

Currently Wyoming and Kentucky are the only states not participating in OJJDP.

Core Requirements:

- Deinstitutionalization of status offenders
- Sight and sound separation of juveniles from adults in adult jails and lockups (see co-location criteria below)
- Jail removal(consider juvenile detention centers). Approx. 43 states are in compliance with this core requirement
- Overrepresentation of minorities in secure facilities. (Iowa and Pennsylvania have excellent information on how to take steps to address this issue.)

Co-location has four criteria:

- Separation between juvenile and adults/no sight and sound contact/can be done architecturally or through time phasing--a booking facility can be time-phased.
- Separate juvenile and adult programs including recreational, educational, vocational, counseling, sleeping rooms, etc.
- Separate staff for the juvenile and adult population, including staff - such as a superintendent whose first or main duty is working with the juvenile population rather than the adult population
- States establish licensing and standards

Grants: See Attachment Nine, Wyoming Fiscal Year 1997, OJJDP State Grant Allocations.

Formula Grants (Sec. 222): These are tied to the core requirements reflected above.

Incentive Grants: These grants are for local delinquent prevention programs. This means the communities receiving funds must meet the core requirements, not the State.

Title V Grant: The State Advisory Group (SAG) is the decision making body of who gets this funding. OJJDP provides Title V training and a three-day risk and resources assessment training.

Title V Grants requirements:

- given to local government in compliance with core requirements
- 3 year plan developed
- local policy board
- 50% match (in kind or in cash provided by the local government)

The community is required to do a risk and resource assessment, develop a strategic plan, provide data, etc. The SAG reviews the grant given to the community every 12 months, and it cannot exceed 36 months.

Challenge Grants: Wyoming has available to it \$87,500. This grant is available only if the Formula grant is currently being received. Refer to the bulletin in the OJJDP handout.

Innovative Local Law Enforcement and Community Policing Program (ILLECP). Wyoming would be eligible for \$32,000.

OJJDP Presentation continued. Allison Fleming (Iowa State Advisory Group).

State Advisory Groups, Sec. 223(a)(3)  
State Advisory Group Responsibilities, Sec. 223(a)(3)(F).

The SAG shall:

- advise, consult and report
- report annually to governor and legislature
- supervise preparation and administration of 3-year plan
- review grant applications (technical assistance is available on this process)
- seek input from system youth (this could be done through a survey)

The SAG may:

- monitor compliance
- evaluate juvenile justice projects

Inherent responsibilities:

- advocate for goals of JJDP (if your SAG chooses to participate)
- know state and federal laws
- know how juvenile justice system works
- know facilities and programs
- be an active SAG participant
- know your legislators and staff

November 14, 1997:

OJJDP Presentation continued. Donna Bownes.

As a State Advisory Group member, the SACJJ is also a member of the National Coalition for Juvenile Justice (use the Coalition as a resource):

- advises the President, Congress, and the Administrator of OJJDP
- disseminates information
- reviews federal juvenile justice policy

National Steering Committee (NSC) - speaks on behalf of SAG to Congress when Congress needs information.

Wyoming would be part of the Western Coalition.

Role of the Specialist. Donna Bownes.

- Manage the Formula, Title V Community Prevention, State Challenge and ILLECP Grants
- Work as the liaison with the OJJDP
- Provide support to the SAG
- Work as a juvenile justice and delinquency prevention state expert
- Be a resource

Three-year plan (Sec. 223(a)(8)-(24)). Allison Fleming.

- coordinate and implement
- juvenile crime analysis
- needs identification
- gender specific services (girls)
- services in rural areas
- mental health services available to system youth
- mandate compliance
- fiscal expenditures

SAG ROLE. Allison Fleming.

- develop and approve the three-year plan
- advise state planning agency
- advise governor and legislature
- review JJDP grant application
- may monitor compliance and review projects
- seek input from juveniles currently under the juvenile justice system

Wyoming Fiscal Year 1997, OJJDP State Grant Allocation. In Attachment Nine, Donna Bownes included a letter from OJJDP to Governor Geringer, dated April 10, 1995. OJJDP used the FY93 and FY94 funds because Wyoming chose not to participate.

OJJDP is holding FY95 and FY96 funds. The State of Wyoming may want to release these funds (\$1.2 million) to allow localities to apply for the money.

Strategic Planning.

Develop mission statements  
Develop issues list

Wrap-up and Assignment. Shirley Carson provided the group with their assignments.

- Review the draft Mission Statements developed by the Council (attached).
- Review the Issues list developed by the Council (attached).
- Develop a list of the Strengths and Weakness of the Council. Send your list to:

Department of Family Services  
Div. of Juvenile Services  
Hathaway Building, Room 318  
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0490

E-mail for Les Pozsgi:

lpozsg@missc.state.wy.us

E-mail for Merit Thomas:

mthoma@missc.state.wy.us

E-mail for Bibi Bengston:

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- Begin the process of Situational Analysis:

Identify what is the economic environment of the Council and of Wyoming.  
Identify what are the political factors.  
Identify how technology will help or hinder.  
Identify the social factors.

Pat Crow will be the Interim-Chairperson until the next Council meeting. Sara Washington and Ron Carson will be assistants to Pat. He will draft a letter to the Governor and Legislature about the Council and formulate a draft conflict of interest policy. His e-mail address is: pcrow@trib.com.

A tentative timeline for the next meeting will be in January, 1998, prior to the Legislative session.

The Council will still need to vote for a Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons; Vice-Chairperson or Co-Vice Chairpersons; and a Treasurer.

Bylaws and the development of task forces will need to be addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

Bibianne R. Bengston  
Administrative Specialist 2

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