

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE  
(SACJJ)  
Sheridan, Wyoming  
September 9-10, 1999  
Minutes**

**Council Members Present:** James Boykin, Lynn Dickey, John Frentheway, Tom Harrington, Chuck Kratz, Sharon Mann, Bob Mayor, Pat Nagel, Narina Nunez, Rick Paul, Mike Seabeck, Val Seidel, Ben Silliman, Doreen Thunder.

**Staff Support:** Les Pozsgi, Renee Gamino, Bibianne Bengston, Division of Juvenile Services.

**Others in Attendance:**

Sam Munoz, Wyoming Boys' School  
Lisa Skiles, Governor Geringer's Office  
Sharon Guerney-Maier, Department of Health  
Mary Byrnes, JAIBG Evaluator  
Jodie Bear, Administrator, Youth Experiencing Success in Sheridan (YESS)  
Joe Evans, Exec. Director, Wyoming County Commissioners' Association (WCCA)  
Sherry Kane, Wyoming County Commissioners' Association (WCCA)  
Charley Whiton, Sheridan County Commissioner  
Pam Emerson, Sheridan Co., Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)  
Cory Erickson, Wyoming Children's Access Network (WYCAN)

**Unable To Attend:** Pat Crow, Carol Crump, Mark Harris, Kathy Hutchison, Nena James, Steve Lindly, Pat Lynch, Thomas Sullins.

**Resignations:** Kathy Hutchison and Shannon Noel

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**Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review:** Bob Mayor, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m., and began with introductions. There were no revisions to the agenda.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the SACJJ meeting held June 24-25, 1999, in Riverton, were reviewed. Lynn Dickey moved that the minutes be accepted as submitted. Chuck Kratz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Val Seidel presented the SACJJ budget as of August 31, 1999. Pat Nagel moved the budget report be approved. Narina Nunez seconded the motion. Motion passed. The August 9, 1999, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) budget report was also reviewed. Narina Nunez moved that this report be approved. Pat Nagel seconded the motion. Motion passed. The reports will be filed with the minutes.

**Joint Judiciary Committee Meeting:** Committee Chair Pat Nagel, Bob Mayor and Les Pozsgi reviewed the recent committee meeting and the discussion on

CHINS. Les Pozsgi reported the outcome of the meeting focused on the Council continuing to explore alternatives to CHINS. He also mentioned that the sunseting of CHINS influenced this exploration. Lisa Skiles reported that the Governor was still concerned about the misuse of CHINS.

**Serious Emotional Disorders (SED):** The Council was asked by Les Pozsgi to review and comment on the SED definition. This request focused on the possibility of better defining the CHINS population using this definition. Refer to attachment.

- Sharon Guerney-Maier will get actual numbers of juveniles receiving services through a community health provider.
- Les Pozsgi and Lisa Skiles will work on gathering Mental Health information.
- Pat Nagel will survey other states regarding Families in Need of Services/Serious Emotional Disorders (FINS/SED).

**JAIBG Site Visits-Evaluation Update:** The Department of Family Services has contracted with Mary Byrnes to conduct site visits of the JAIBG programs. Ms. Brynes will evaluate the programs for effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery.

**Department of Family Services (DFS) Transitional Support Service:** Les Pozsgi provided a report on the Department of Family Services, Specialized Transitional Support Services (Institutional Recidivism FY99). Refer to attachment.

**Committees met from 10:30 a.m. until Noon to Prepare Reports on the following:**

**Delinquency/Youth Prevention-Lynn Dickey & Narina Nunez**

- Strategic Plan
- Review SACJJ (draft) Directory
- Determine Interest in Statewide Evaluation Training
- The first draft of the SACJJ Annual Report is due October 8, 1999

**Juvenile Justice Committee-Val Seidel**

- Strategic Plan – review committee's portion
- Review the Governor's input regarding the Juvenile Detention Standards
- Discuss the process for the public comment period
- The first draft of the SACJJ Annual Report is due October 8, 1999

**Judicial Planning Ad Hoc Committee met from Noon until 1:00 p.m.**

**Presentations to the Council:**

- **YESS Pilot and JAIBG:** Jodie Bear provided an overview. Wyoming Co. Commissioners' Association (WCCA), Executive Director Joe Evans; Sherry Kane (WCCA); Sheridan County Commissioner Charley Whiton; and



Sheridan Mayor Jim Wilson were available as a resource to answer questions.

- **YESS Pilot (Youth Experiencing Success), Sheridan.** The YESS pilot has been in operation for one year. Since that time, the county attorney has filed only two CHINS cases. The pilot is addressing the issues of delinquency prevention for at-risk youth. This is an early intervention pilot that includes the local mental health center; public schools; the Johnson/Sheridan Group Home; LifeQuest; and a juvenile drug court program.
- **Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG).** The JAIBG is being used to fund a 48-hour holding resource located in the Johnson-Sheridan Group Home. The purpose is to provide a safe and supervised environment for juveniles cited with status offenses or misdemeanors. This is a non-secure holding resource for nonviolent offenders.
- **OJJDP Nonparticipation Grant:** Joe Evans, Executive Director, Wyoming County Commissioners' Association provided an overview on their involvement with this grant. The funds will be used to provide alternatives to jailing juveniles and assist communities to work towards being in compliance with the OJJDP Core Requirements. Refer to OJJDP attachment.

Bob Mayor requested that a discussion on data collection, and other responsibilities, contained in the grant proposal, be held between the Council, WCCA, Sheridan Joint Powers Board, and DFS. OJJDP will not provide further funding without data.

Bob Mayor credited Carol Crump for providing a summary of the Non-participation grant. Concerns:

- Narina Nunez was concerned that the Council was not asked for a letter of agreement, as the Council has a role in the grant.
- The letter would clarify what the Council sees as its role in the grant-- not necessarily what has been written in the grant.
- Val Seidel was concerned with the repetition in the grant, and asked for a recommendation from the Council to WCCA to ensure that monitoring and data collection are the first mandates that need to be addressed.
- Samples of data collected by WYSA could be provided.

The Council and DFS agreed to contact Jodie Bear and Joe Evans within the week to see how data collection, and other concerns, could be resolved.

- **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA):** Director Pam Emerson, presented the overview of the Sheridan program. CASA has two programs: The Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) program, which provides trained

advocates to the community, assigned by a judge in the juvenile courts; and the Home Visitation Programs for teenage mothers.

- **WY Children's Access Network (WYCAN):** Executive Director Cory Erickson provided a summary of this program which involves family members transitioning into a new family structure. Some of the services provided are Co-Parent Education, Mediation, Pro Se Assistance, and other services. Refer to attachment

### Committee Updates:

#### **Grant Review Committee:**

- **Wind River Reservation Requests:** Narina Nunez mentioned that the Northern Arapaho has requested an additional \$15,000 and the Shoshoni an additional \$20,000 from the carryover FY1998 JAIBG funds. Narina Nunez moved that the Council not allocate the additional funds, since the remaining funds will be used for a statewide JAIBG training. Ric Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed. The Reservation will be notified in writing.
- **Competitive Award & Appeal Criteria:** Narina Nunez reported these forms will be used for future grant awards and an appeals process. They are still in the development stage and will be reviewed at the November meeting.
- **Title V Prevention Grant FY99:** This grant is for \$100,000 and focuses on juvenile delinquency prevention programs. To apply for the grant, a state or community must be in compliance with OJJDP criteria. Narina Nunez moved for Renee Gamino to write OJJDP requesting the money be placed on hold until Wyoming is in compliance. Chuck Kratz seconded the motion. Motion passed. Bob Mayor requested that Renee contact OJJDP to find out what the sight and sound separation rule/guideline is per OJJDP.

### Committee Reports:

- **Review and Approve Bylaws:** Lynn Dickey moved that the Bylaws be adopted as drafted. Ric Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- **Delinquency Prevention/Youth Services:** Lynn Dickey informed the Council of changes made to the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan will be updated.
  - Renee Gamino will write a thank you letter to the Wyoming Boys' School in appreciation of compiling data in the statewide directory.



- **Juvenile Justice Committee:** Val Seidel reported Governor Geringer reviewed the drafted Standards and requested the Council disseminate them and keep him informed regarding public comments.
  - Bob Mayor will draft a cover letter and the Council will send the draft Standards to the Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM), Wyoming County Commissioners Association (WCCA), Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police Association, WYSA, and JAIBG project coordinators.
  - The timeline for dissemination is October 1, 1999. Public comment period will be until November 1, 1999, compiled for review by the Council at the November meeting in Douglas, and then shared with Governor Geringer.
  - DFS will prepare the standards for the rules process, followed by a submission to the Legislature, including: cover letter, written comments, and a request to incorporate these into statutory changes.

**September 9, 1999, Adjourn:** Narina Nunez moved to adjourn the meeting. Doreen Thunder seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

**September 10, 1999 Friday:** The meeting reconvened at 8:40 a.m.

**Old Business:**

- **Juvenile Justice Bills S. 254 and H.R. 1501:** The Council reviewed the bills and decided to write to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation asking them to contact the members listed in the bill. Refer to attachment. The letter would identify the Council's desire to retain SAG funding. The SACJJ supports the responsibilities of reviewing state and federal funding applications, and judicial discretion; maintaining strong State Advisory Groups; and earmarking prevention funds.
- **Roster Update:** Renee Gamino will contact Council members who have been inactive to see if they are still interested in continuing as a member of the Council.
- **CJJ "Breaking Boundaries, Meeting Youth Needs Across Systems" Midwestern and Western Coalitions Training, July 23-25, 1999:** Chuck Kratz reported on the training and encouraged the Council's attendance, although we are not voting members.

John Frentheway moved that at each meeting, between one to three hours be dedicated to training of the Council regarding what was learned at the various conferences/trainings attended by its members. Ben Silliman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- **FY 99 JAIBG Training in Washington, DC, August 4-6, 1999:** Renee Gamino reported on the training and informed the Council that local training is available. Refer to attachment.
- **Healthy Youth/Healthy Communities, September /26-28/99:** Council members, Sharon Guerney-Maier, Sharon Mann, and Ben Silliman will be attending this conference.
- **Enforcing Underage Drinking Rules Showcase:** Sharon Guerney-Maier invited the Council to attend the showcase that consists of programs currently existing within the state. The Council members will receive an invitation with date, time and location of the showcase.

**New Business:**

- **Resignations/Membership:** Kathy Hutchison and Shannon Noel have submitted their resignations. The Council wished Shannon success. John Frentheway moved that the Council write to Ms. Hutchison's supervisor a letter of support regarding Kathy's continued membership on the Council. Ric Paul seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The Council will advocate that Charley Whiton, a member of WCCA, be approved for membership on the Council. Bob Mayor requested that Renee Gamino contact Charley at the earliest possible time to verify his interest in being a member.

The Council will invite a WAM representative to attend meetings in the community where the Council is scheduled to meet.

Ric Paul mentioned that the Sheriffs and Chiefs Association have asked if they could be considered for representation on the Council. It was mentioned that a sheriff from Teton County and a staff person from the Wyoming Boys' School have also expressed an interest.

- **SACJJ Annual Report due on or before December 31, 1999:** Each committee will have a report to Bob Mayor by October 8, 1999.
- **Judicial Ad Hoc Committee Report:** The committee requested the Council's approval to present the idea of a family court before the Joint Judicial Committee. The committee will continue to be an advocate for a single point of entry for youth into the court system.

Ric Paul requested that the Joint Judicial Committee be asked to consider a centralized data base/tracking system as part of the single point of entry process.

Lynn Dickey asked Les Pozsgi if he could research information on a grant proposal coming from the Supreme Court System.



John Frentheway moved that data collection be part of the presentation to the Legislature. Chuck Kratz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Pat Nagel requested a presentation on Teen Court, with input from teens that have been involved in the court. The communities represented by Nena James and Doreen Thunder have this type of court. The Council will ask Nena to provide a presentation.
- The Council requested information on family courts. The Juvenile Justice Committee agreed to take on this project. They will provide information at the next meeting.
- Pat Nagel suggested SACJJ needs to establish a working relationship with the Early Childhood Development Council. Bob Mayor suggested we send our minutes, strategic plan, and annual report to the ECHDC chair and a letter requesting the same.
- **Conferences and Workshops: CJJ “Who Holds the Keys?” The Status of Juvenile Confinement conference, Nov. 11-14, 1999, Salt Lake City, Utah:** Handouts were provided to the Council regarding details to attend the conference. Ric Paul, John Frentheway, and Chuck Kratz indicated an interest in attending this conference

**Next Meeting:** Narina Nunez moved that the next meeting be held in Douglas, beginning November 17th at 1:00 p.m., continuing on November 18th, for a full day. JAIBG Evaluation Training, for Council members who want to participate, will be scheduled November 19th, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. A showcase of identified delinquency prevention programs will also be provided. John Frentheway seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There will be evening meetings on November 17<sup>th</sup> for both the Ad Hoc Committee and the Juvenile Justice Committee.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business and no objections, Narina Nunez moved that the Council adjourn. The motion was seconded by Pat Nagel and passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bibianne R. Bengston