

WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

November 17-18, 2022: Buffalo, WY

Agenda:

Thursday, November 17, 2022

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

Friday, November 18, 2022

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

Present:

Abbey Kercher
Alexandra Bammel
Brittany Cangialosi
Damon DeBernardi
Erica Wood
Jennifer Palser
Karen Solomon
Lila Konecky
Logan Christie
Narina Nunez
Nicole Hauser
Ruth Ogden
Stacy Becker

Ex-Officio Present:

Cameron Smith
Jen Davis
Jo Ann Numoto
Shawn Sitzman

Via Proxy:

Adrienne Freng

Others Present:

Brandon Schimelpfenig (DFS)
Jacob Edwards (DFS)
Lindsey Schilling (DFS)
Laurel Wimbish (WYSAC)
Briana Montoya (CJP)
Mark Wilson (Johnson Cty.)
Tucker Ruby (Johnson Cty.)
Raelynn Miller (DFS)

Absent:

Clarence Thomas
Dakota Jackson
Gabriel Gerrish
Janelle Ordiway
Melinda Cox
Nikki Sweets
Ronald Howard
Shad Bates
Stacy Nelson

Call to Order

I. Call to Order: Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 1:00p.

- a) Roll Call/Introductions
- b) Declaration of Quorum; a quorum was established with 14 members present.

II. Approval of Minutes:

September 15-16, 2022 meeting held in Rawlins; Abbey Kercher motioned to approve the draft minutes; Narina Nunez seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

III. New Business:

- a) Open Topic Discussion from Members
ICJ Probation Reform from CJJ: Damon asked Brandon from Department of Family Services (DFS) to discuss the recent communication that was sent out by

the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ). Brandon stated that the communication consisted of probation reform resources for state SAGs (State Advisory Groups) to utilize that other states are also utilizing. Brandon also stated that most of the resources are geared towards Participating States with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP).

b) Public Comment Period
No topics brought forth.

c) 2023 Meeting Dates and Locations
The SACJJ discussed dates and locations to hold meetings in 2023. The 19th and 20th was discussed for the January meeting; the 20th and 21st was discussed for the April meeting; the 15th and 16th was discussed for the June meeting; the 21st and 22nd was discussed for the September meeting; and the 16th and 17th was discussed for the November meeting. Locations were then discussed and Cheyenne was unanimous for the January meeting; Douglas and Wheatland were discussed before Douglas was decided for the April meeting; Rock Springs was discussed as a location for the June meeting; Jackson was discussed for the September meeting; and Casper was discussed for the November meeting.

A final 2023 meeting dates and locations schedule was voted on and it was decided that the January 19-20 meeting will be held in Cheyenne; April 20-21 will be in Douglas; June 15-16 will be in Rock Springs; September 21-22 will be in Jackson; and November 16-17 will be in Casper; Abbey Kercher motioned to approve the schedule; Nicole Hauser seconded the motion; all in favor; motion approved.

IV. On-Going Business – Updates From:

a) Council Membership – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that there is a new youth member: Ruth Ogden from Laramie, WY. Nicole Hauser stated that with the recent highlight of juvenile justice that she believes that the superintendents from the Wyoming Boys School and Wyoming Girls School should be appointed members on the SACJJ once again as it was thought that they were automatically reappointed after each term. Discussion was had on the topic.

b) Governor’s Office – Jen Davis
Jen discussed the recent Governor’s Mental Health Summit. She stated that as a follow up to the Summit that the Governor’s Office wanted to keep all the communities engaged so there was a decision to create a training every Monday with a different mental health topic to be discussed. Jen also stated that a monthly newsletter will also be sent out discussing mental health from the Governor’s Office.

Jen also discussed another priority with the Governor’s Office is discussing the ARPA funding opportunities as well as drafting a budget to submit to the

Wyoming Legislature in preparation for the upcoming session scheduled to start January 10, 2023.

c) CJSB Reform Discussion

Brandon stated that reform efforts are currently on pause as DFS administration is going to determine where to take the reform recommendations and which of the recommendations DFS will implement into amendments for the CJSBs.

d) JDRA Discussion

Byron Oedekoven, Executive Director, was present via Zoom to discuss the Wyoming Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment (JDRA). There was discussion had on the topic of removing letter F from the statute (7-1-108) and if there should be an alternative explored if F is removed. Byron had mentioned that with the creation of the new DFS juvenile justice data collection system that JDRA data metrics will be included.

e) Budget Report/Grant Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig

Brandon stated that Title II 2019 has been fully expended and Title II 2020 still has \$18,576.75 remaining. Brandon stated that Title II 2021 has been awarded in the increased amount of \$30,000 as the minimum amount for Participating States with the JJDPA was increased to \$600,000; since Participating States minimums increased, Non-Participating State's amounts increased as well. He also stated that Title II 2022 should be awarded sometime soon by OJJDP.

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

Brandon provided an update regarding ICJ. He stated that ICJ membership dues are going to be increasing in 2023 and by 35%.

Friday, November 18, 2022

V. Committee Reports

a) Executive Committee – Damon DeBernardi

Damon stated they did not meet between the September meeting and this meeting but there were no updates to present.

b) Grants Committee – Damon DeBernardi

Damon stated there were no updates.

c) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng

Adrienne was not present however Narina stated that there were no updates to present at this time. Stacy Becker stated she would like to join the Data Committee.

d) Best Practices Committee – Stacy Nelson

Stacy was not present however Erica stated that they had met to discuss the JDRA but that there no other updates.

- e) Outreach/Youth Committee – Erica Wood, Dakota Jackson
Erica stated that they have put together a flyer for youth members as well other members and should have it ready for dispersal by the January 2023 meeting. Erica said that the committee also put together an updated acronym list for new members.
- f) Legislative Committee – Damon DeBernardi
Damon stated there have been a few bills that were introduced but never made it out of committee within the Legislature. He stated one that the Legislative committee is keeping an eye on is a bill that would expand juvenile jurisdiction for criminal cases.

VI. DFS Update/Report

Lindsey Schilling, Senior Administrator for the Social Services Division with DFS, was present via Zoom to discuss juvenile justice within DFS. Lindsey stated that the new DFS case management system, WYOSAFE, planning phase meetings have been going well with the vendor. She also stated that Wyoming has been selected for round one of a federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). This will be taking place in October 2023-March 2024 and will be a state-led review of cases as opposed a federally-led review. The last CFSR for DFS was held in 2016. Lindsey briefly discussed the juvenile justice data system that DFS is gathering information on from various juvenile justice stakeholders throughout the state. She also discussed the CJSB reform efforts that recently took place with DFS and various stakeholders and stated that DFS is putting together an executive summary of their recommendations and should have that ready to disperse by the end of 2022. Moving into 2023 she stated that should the recommendations necessitate contract amendments then Brandon would start those as well in early 2023 so they can be in effect by July 1, 2023.

VII. 2022 Annual Report Recommendations

Damon discussed the 2022 Annual Report recommendations with the SACJJ. He first mentioned the 2021 recommendations and asked everyone which should stay on the 2022 Annual Report. Nicole mentioned that there should be something in the 2022 Report about the JDRA and the SACJJ's willingness to assist and collaborate with WASCOP and DFS on the administration of the assessment. Nicole also mentioned putting something in the 2022 Report about investing more in the child welfare workforce of Wyoming because a lot of facilities are struggling with staffing. Another recommendation was discussed being to increase access for juveniles to mental health care as well as keeping juvenile justice a legislative priority with the Wyoming Legislature. Damon said he would put together all the recommendations mentioned into a rough draft before the next Executive Committee meeting before the January 2023 meeting in Cheyenne. Damon said he would submit the rough

draft to Brandon with DFS to then disperse to the SACJJ for comments and proposed edits.

VIII. Community Participation

a) Johnson County DFS

Raelynn Miller, Social Services worker, was present to discuss juvenile justice trends in Johnson County. She stated that numbers are low right now and that most of the cases are CHINS. She also stated they are fully staffed and that most of the offenses they are seeing in the area right now are property destruction, burglary, and voyeurism. She mentioned that Johnson County has weekly Single Point of Entry meetings. She discussed one thing they are seeing right now in the area is a lack of foster homes for teenagers.

b) Johnson County CJSB and Attorney's Office

Tucker Ruby, County Attorney, and Mark Wilson, Johnson County Mentoring Program Director, were present to discuss crime trends Johnson County is seeing in the area as well as services the Johnson County CJSB offers. Tucker stated that Johnson County doesn't have a lot of mental health or substance abuse treatment resources in the area so most have to go to Casper, Sheridan, or Gillette. He mentioned most of the cases he is seeing in his office is CHINS and sexting in the schools.

IX. Announcements

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 19-20, 2023 in Cheyenne, WY.

X. Adjournment

Nicole Hauser motioned to adjourn the meeting; Abbey Kercher seconded the motion; all in favor; meeting was adjourned at 11:01a.