

Juvenile Justice Task Force

January 20, 2011 9am-Noon
710 Kipling St. JAC 11011 West 6th Avenue, Lakewood, CO

ATTENDEES:

CHAIR

Regina Huerter, Denver Crime Prev. & Control Comm.
Ken Plotz, Task Force consultant

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Meg Williams, Division of Criminal Justice
Don Moseley, Ralston House
Inta Morris, Department of Higher Education
Stan T. Paprocki, Division of Behavioral Health
Regis Groff, Retired State Senator
Norene Simpson, Defense Attorney
Jeff McDonald, Jefferson County Juvenile Assessment Center
Kirk Henwood, Montrose County School District (on phone)
John Gomez, Director of DYC
Beth McCann, Representative (on phone)

STAFF

Germaine Miera, Division of Criminal Justice

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Lance Carl, College in Colorado
Hailey Wilmer for Steve Siegel

ABSENT:

Karen Ashby, Juvenile Court Presiding Judge
Alaurice Tafoya Modi, Defense Attorney
Linda Newell, Senator
Bill Kilpatrick, Golden Police Chief
Joe Higgins, Mesa County Partners
Jan Dempsey Simkins, Juvenile Parole Board
Don Quick, District Att. 17th Judicial District
Susan Colling, State Court Administrators Office

Issue/Topic:	Discussion:
<p data-bbox="147 212 480 239">Welcome and Introductions</p> <p data-bbox="269 426 358 453">Action:</p> <p data-bbox="94 464 534 527">Germaine to send out HB 10-1274 to members</p>	<p data-bbox="560 212 1523 348">Regina Huerter welcomes the group and proposes the idea of possibly changing the meeting date/time to accommodate more task force members. Ken Plotz will conduct some outreach to the group and see if there's a better time for people to meet.</p> <p data-bbox="560 390 1468 491">Ken Plotz updates the group (in Senator Newell's absence) on the discussion from December regarding the Padres & Jovenes Unidos organization and possible legislation.</p> <p data-bbox="560 533 1211 560"><u>Legislation update – Padres & Jovenes Unidos proposal</u></p> <ul data-bbox="609 569 1528 1965" style="list-style-type: none"> • During the December meeting Sen. Newell brought forth a topic for discussion regarding a possible bill proposal that would break the chain of 'school to jail chain'. Ken informs the group that after further discussion a bill has NOT been drafted after all. • During further discussions various victim's rights associations objected to proposed legislation. • One concern is that there are many times schools HAVE to use discretion. • There may be a way to find common ground eventually regarding a proposed bill, and while it's worth continuing the discussions it will not likely go anywhere during this current session. • There's got to be a way to work with schools so they don't feel they have to file charges EVERY time. We need to work on treatment and address that as an issue. • There's an issue lately of more and more parents who say 'arrest my kid so they can get services'. Oftentimes two kids get into a fight, and at least one of them eventually gets filed on. In the past, it would be a 3-5 day suspension. • In the past, if a kid came to school drunk the school would call parents. Now, because of liability the school will call an ambulance, an ambulance doesn't come without police, and subsequently there are charges. • Schools are hog-tied by 'absolutes'. • Most kids who fight, get drunk, etc. are NOT being referred to law enforcement. Schools are also dealing with issues that 10 years ago they weren't dealing with. Kids overdosing on pills, etc. • More people need to be part of the conversation. • Let's look at data across jurisdiction regarding what's going on with kids and cases being referred to law enforcement. School based referrals to Resource officers. Where there are alternatives law enforcement trends to take them. • There are 8 data points that CDE requires <ol data-bbox="704 1688 1232 1965" style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1st, 2nd or Vehicular Assault 2. 3rd degree Assault or Disorderly Conduct 3. Alcohol violation 4. Dangerous weapons 5. Destruction of school property 6. Detrimental behavior 7. Disobedience or defiance 8. Drug violation

9. Other felonies

- The task force will continue to follow-up with Sen. Newell on where the conversation and possible bill is going.

Legislation Update – HB1274

- HB1274 – concerns Legislation regarding kids that have been in and out of home placement for 12 months coming back into the school districts. Those are the most at-risk kids in our school districts.
- Kirk and Jeff will keep us updated on this. It will impact juvenile justice in the state of Colo.
- This legislation is going to be defining the words ‘at risk’.
- This has bigger implications for the child welfare system.
- One concern is the impact on juveniles in regards to weapons charges, etc.
- The spirit of the bill is to force conversations between agencies about students coming back to public schools after an absence so that the information is being shared. Sometimes schools don’t get notification of where a kid is coming from or their history. Schools often get kids seriously ‘at risk’ and have no idea.
- The goal is to start a process of communication and collaboration so kids coming back into public schools from wherever get the services they need. If a kid gets bonded out on a weapons charge they could go back to school and the school might never know.
- This bill would help enable good placement decisions.
- There is an MOU draft in process. The Colorado Youth and Information sharing committee is involved (Meg and Joe are involved in that group).
- A mutual agreeable definition of ‘at risk’ is what’s in the works now. Lawyers are working on that at the moment.
- Let’s look at data about arrest records and trends in juvenile arrest. Up, down?

<p>Issue/Topic:</p> <p>Education - P20</p> <p>Action:</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Inta discusses P20 and the various issues P20 addresses.</p> <p><u>Discussion Points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P20 has a drop-out committee, but it’s much more focused on the big picture statistics.• If we’re thinking about legislation, let’s talk about alternative schools in each district that can handle these kids.• DHE looks at this as far as providing access and affordability for every kid to get into college and get a degree.• We are trying to look at what we do at Higher Ed as starting way back. What we see is this pipeline.• During the December meeting Judy Martinez talked about dropout rates and told us that dropouts most often occur at age 17 and ½• How can we get kids to get through the pipeline and get into something successful? From our perspective out of 100 9th graders, only 22 will get a
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college degree.

- We're losing kids in high school and we're losing them after they graduate. First and second year retention is also a huge challenge.
- Currently we are seeing a lot more attention paid to things like current enrollment, and allowing a kid to get college credit while still in high school. Last year, legislation passed around dual enrollment for the whole state and now there's a framework in place so that a kid in high school can get college credit at no cost to the kid. If you can get a high school student up to 15 college credits at no cost while they're in high school that's a very big deal.

Inta introduces Lance Carl from College in Colorado. Inta explains that College in Colorado is a great program that works to inform and motivate kids around the state about the benefits of getting a college degree. She explains that we have a huge challenge in this state getting kids to go to college and kids without a post secondary degree are often not going to do very well in the career world.

Lance Carl, Director of Student Outreach/College in Colorado

- Lance speaks to middle school students, high school students, juvenile offenders help them understand there's a strategy to get to where they want to get to in life.
- He offers a 60 minute presentation outlining the 7 traits of successful people.
- The P in P20 should really be about parenting.
- Lance talks to the kids about the importance of having a plan, the power of choices, the importance of discipline, the importance of finding a mentor, Patience, courage and commitment.
- College in Colorado provides comprehensive tools to help kids plan for their career, whether vocational or professional. College may not be for everyone but kids need skills.
- The website provides an abundant amount of information. It's an overall comprehensive track with both tools and resources, free of charge.
- College in Colorado is a free resource and provides trainings at institutions, organizations, etc.
- www.collegeincolorado.org

Issue/Topic:

Mission/Vision

Action:

The Next Steps will be to work on the guiding principles

Discussion:

Meg Williams provides an update on the small mission/vision subgroup that met after the December meeting. The work group looked at all the notes and revision requests that came out of that meeting. One of the things the working group looked at was prevention and intervention. We're creating 'whole adults' and that was the intent of the vision/mission.

Mission/Vision Discussion Points

- Mission needs to remain as broad as possible. The more we specifically put things in it could become many pages.
- We can put more detail in the guiding principles and goals arena. It

needs to remain as broad as possible.

- Also, we're defining the mission of THIS task force. Mission statements should not include strategies or time frames.
- What is an evidence-based recommendation? Tweak that wording a little bit.
- What about replacing 'will accomplish by' with 'work toward'

- Take off the part after intervention and treatment. It's about accomplishing the mission not how we do it.
- Strategic alignment is enough of a core goal that it should be part of the mission statement. The need to have sustainability was really crucial.
- We wanted evidence based and research based in there.
- The 'task force will advocate for strategic alignment'
- Evidence-Based recommendations –
We struggled with this term.
Maybe science or research?
Recommendations need to be based on some sort of science.
To produce recommendations based on research of evidence.
- Nothing in here really speaks to concepts of restorative justice
- We can't change the whole children and youth system but we can improve parts of the system. We need to hone in on what we really can accomplish.
- One of the guiding principles can be the prevention of delinquency.

The mission/vision is revised and voted on as follows (with unanimous support of the 10 people in attendance).

Vision

All Colorado children and families live in safe, healthy and vibrant communities that provide for their needs, recognize their strengths and support their success.

Mission

The mission of the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice's Juvenile Task Force is to engage and partner with stakeholders to produce *recommendations supported by research* that promote public safety and delinquency prevention, intervention and treatment. The task force will advocate for strategic alignment and sustainability of policies, resources, and funding of systems which support Colorado children and families.

- The Next Steps will be to work on the guiding principles.

Issue/Topic:

2010 CCJJ Timeline and Outcomes and
2011 CCJJ Timeline and Expectations

Discussion:

Germaine goes over two legal sized handouts.

- The first is the CCJJ 2010 Timeline and Outcomes. This document lays out the work that was conducted by the CCJJ and its task forces in 2010 along

Action:

-Include future education piece around children's code

- Norene Simpson and Don Quick could present on the delinquency part
- The judges could present on dependency and neglect

-Germaine send out Rep. Nikkel's legislation to the group – check to see if this will impact JV at all

-Provide update to the group at the next meeting on 'DUI clean-up bill' (changes with DUI legislation and unintended consequences)

-Get copies of grid from Meg

-Check Nikkel's new legislation and see if this might have an implication on juveniles

with the products that were a result of that work. The goal of distributing this document is to educate juvenile task force members on the work that goes into Commission outcomes and how the work of the Juvenile Task Force will play into the overall Commission work in the upcoming year.

- The second document is a template to help the group decide and plan their work for the upcoming year (2011) along with years 2012 and 2013.

Work Plan Discussion Points

- Regi discusses the current state of the juvenile task force including asking what does the group want to tackle and how are we going to strategize and get work done.
- One possible proposal includes the following-

2011 – Strategic Alignment

2012 – Prevention/Intervention

2013 – Children's code

Discussion points

- Can we work on some legislative pieces sooner rather than later?
- When the group met over the summer we talked a lot about the Children's Code and the need for updating. But we also talked about not moving forward on the children's code right off the bat because that may put us out of alignment with the other areas we want to address.
- Defense council folks would like to work on Children's Code now
- Before we make recommendations for changes we do need to analyze and get informed on the current state of things, where we need to go, how we're going to get there (gaps analysis).
- There is so much in the code that needs to be addressed but we need to get educated first.
- The sooner we can get to this, the better for legislators
- Can this group comment on the legislation that may come forth?
- The Children's code is so complex, could we have someone come in and bring us up to date on the children's code so we can respond to issues with some background and intelligence?
- Children's Code is incredibly dense. Let's use the code as a lens to look through to see if there are ways we can think about improving it.
- We've got to figure out all the issues and problems and then bring in the children's code issues.
- Children's code covers everything from dependency and neglect up to kids 21 year olds, and everything in between. There are 3 main articles of the children's code and the middle chunk deals with juvenile justice.
- Could we have a parallel track and start to develop our base of knowledge about various issues at that same time that we work to revamp the Children's Code? Could we start keeping a library of children's code issues? We could start outlining statutes that are pertinent, etc. We should always be looking at the code.
- Keep in mind there are a lot of statutes NOT in the criminal code that affect kids in the justice system.
- Regi suggests we use this year to look at strategic alignment and continue to use it for education, including education around children's code.

- Ken Plotz, Judge Ashby and Judge Boatright could help us with education pieces. Judge Ashby could educate us on the juvenile code and especially the Dependency and Neglect piece. Let's put together an education piece for each section of the code.
- Norene Simpson and Don Quick could present on the delinquency part and the judges could present on dependency and neglect.
- As we do our work around strategic alignment, as we look at issues let's decide if there's legislation, policies, that address issues we're looking at?
- Who can present a broad overview of the code first?
- This group can give feedback on legislation. We can't *support* legislation but we can give feedback. Is this agreeable to folks that we are a resource?
- Meg to send her tracking sheet out to the group once a week
- Recent DUI/DWAI legislation impacts juveniles that are now going to detention facilities because they're held in jail for non-compliance. An example that something can happen on an adult level that will actually impact juveniles. This issue is being addressed in the 'DUI Clean Up' bill being worked on currently.
- Let's cross-pollinate recommendations among task forces. Check Nikkel's new legislation and see if this might have an implication on juveniles

Back to timeline discussion and the strategic alignment work for 2011

Discussion Points

- Does this work for everyone?
- There are four major areas under strategic alignment that we could use as vehicles.

1. Statewide inconsistencies – Stan P./Bill K.

- Really looking at access to services, what's available?
- Juvenile JAC's in some areas should we have them everywhere?
- Alternative education
- Access to defense council and how does that look differently around the state
- Treatment services
- Goes with policies, substance abuse

2. Information sharing – Jeff MacDonald

3. Training and education – Inta/Kirk

4. Funding – Meg/new DHS rep.

Discussion

- Should we form four major committees to tackle this work?
- Can these work groups be formed and meet separately and bring these recommendations back to our task force, then onto Commission, then legislature.
- This is huge, how would we tackle this
- Can we walk through the system and overlay these areas as we walk through.
- If we isolate these issues they're not in context anymore
- Is it more manageable to go through this process from the beginning of

	<p>the system to the end?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What if we have a group that focuses on the front end, prevention/intervention and then cross section that with training, information sharing, • Do we need to review some of the things we've done and come up with a work plan?
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<p>Issue/Topic:</p> <p>Next Steps and Adjourn</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>At the February meeting Meg and Jeff will update the group on their proposal of how to tackle the task force's work. We'll look at their proposed grid and figure out what areas need 'champions'.</p> <p>When it comes to the education piece, we have specific representatives to do that.</p> <p>March - Del Elliot to speak April - Children's Code education</p>
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Future Meeting Dates:

Meeting Schedule Jan-June 2011

February 17 th	9:00am – 12:00pm	710 Kipling St., 3 rd floor conference room
March 17 th -18 th	8:30am – 5:00pm	710 Kipling St., 3 rd floor conference room
April 21 st	9:00am – 12:00pm	710 Kipling St., 3 rd floor conference room
May 19 th	9:00am – 12:00pm	710 Kipling St., 3 rd floor conference room
June 16 th	9:00am – 12:00pm	710 Kipling St., 3 rd floor conference room