

Juvenile Justice Task Force

August 18, 2011 - 9:00 am-12:00 pm
JAC Center, Lakewood, CO

ATTENDEES:

Regina Huerter - Denver Crime Prevention and Control Commission
Karen Ashby - Juvenile Court Presiding Judge
Meg Williams - Division of Criminal Justice
Stan T. Paprocki - Division of Behavioral Health
Norene Simpson - Defense Attorney
Jeff MacDonald – Jefferson County JAC
John Gomez – Division of Youth YC
Bill Kilpatrick - Golden Police Chief
Susan Colling - State Court Administrators Office
Charles Garcia, Juvenile Parole Board
Kim Dvorchak - Co. Juvenile Defender Coalition
Coalition
Joe Higgins - Mesa County Partners
Linda Newell - State Senator
Michelle Brinegar - 8th District Attorney's Office
Janet Laning Krug - Douglas County Schools

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Inta Morris – Department of Higher Education
Ellen Roberts – State Senator
Regis Groff – Retired State Senator
Reggie Bicha – Department of Human Services
Kirk Henwood – Montrose County SD RE-1J
Beth McCann – State Representative
Don Quick – District Attorney – 17th Judicial District

STAFF

Ken Plotz, Task Force Consultant
Laurence Lucero, Division of Criminal Justice

Issue/Topic: Welcome and Introductions	Regina Huerter welcomed the group. Task force members and guests introduced themselves.
Issue/Topic: Report of Working Group- Judicial, <i>Karen Ashby</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Courts - Issue of Youth revolving around Municipal Courts. Great disparity among Municipal Judges and the use of Municipal Courts varies widely by Jurisdiction. What would be the purpose and role of Municipal Court in a larger system? Issue of the lack of representation in Municipal Courts. • Memberships – The Judicial working group is looking to extend and diversify the representation (rural communities, Law Enforcement etc.) • Decisions of Judicial Working group – 51% Majority, voting in person or by phone (no voting in absentia). • Juvenile DUI. Data is requested to get a scope of the problem. • DYC Commitments - Who are the kids committed in DYC and how do they get there? Families cannot afford Human services and are billed for child welfare placement services. Issue of Youth on Probation (Human services is no longer an option). Al Estrada from the Division of Youth Corrections is gathering data for the group including Race/Ethnicity, Gender, probation revocations and technical violations, revocations and new crimes, type of offenses and

	<p>number of prior offenses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professionalism. Should there be a standard for professionals working in juvenile justice system? <p>Discussion Points Suggestion of interviewing all stakeholders and assessing the Juvenile and justice systems. Various resources such as Juvenile Courts, the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) etc.</p>
<p>Issue/Topic: Report of Working Group-Assessments, <i>Jeff McDonald</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memberships: The Assessment working group is seeking additional members. • Colorado Reference Guide Juvenile Screening and Assessment Instrument: The group is reviewing the manual prepared in 2007 by the Interagency Advisory Committee on Adult and Juvenile Correctional Treatment (IACAJECT) and is discussing the use of the tool. • Statutes: Discussion around HB 1032 Restorative Justice and HB 1451 Collaborative Management of Multi-Agency Services Provided to Children and Families. <p>Discussion points: Development of an ongoing training curriculum for juvenile justice professionals (Judges, juvenile parole board officers etc.).</p>
<p>Issue/Topic: Report of Working Group- Education, <i>Regina Huerter</i></p>	<p>The group reviewed the legal definitions of ‘Disobedience, Defiance of Authority and Interference’. Definitions and policies vary upon districts and inconsistencies in terms of coding. The group suggested training to achieve consistency.</p> <p>Discussions on the inconsistencies related to the interpretation of ‘Refer to Law Enforcement’. Concern that the legal definition of ‘Reference to Law enforcement’ is listed under Disciplinary Action. Defining the role of school administration and Law Enforcement.</p> <p>Discussions about the value of Out-of School expulsion/suspension.</p> <p>Reviewing top 25 school district code of conduct.</p> <p>The Education group created 3 sub-committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Truancy committee: The Colorado Department of Education will present at the next Education group meeting daily counts and funding data on truancy. The group discussed how to assist schools in finding alternatives to filing truancy cases and how to partner with school to keep kids in schools. Will be reviewing the commitment to NYC data and the use of school attendance review board. Will also be looking at statutes. The trend is going up throughout the state but specifically in 4 districts. Need clarification when filing truancy is a last resort. • School to Jail: SB 11-133 – The Task Force was created to study disciplinary actions taken in public schools. The Task Force had a first meeting with an overview from victims. At future meetings, the Task Force will study practices in other states, Law Enforcement, victims, and education perspectives. Possible legislatures or recommendations to CCIJ or Task Force. The meetings for the SB 11-133 Task Force are posted on the general assembly website and the Task Force is calling for testimony. • Transition: The group discussed the transition of youth coming back into community and youth having received education from non-school system.

	<p>Issue of inconsistencies of number of credit transferred back to school district system and type of credits accepted (elective by subjects or accepted as whole). Transfer of credits varies upon school districts.</p> <p>Inconsistency in terms of education received: Goal of GED and High School, diploma awards, level of resources and length of resources (summer off), variation from a county to another.</p> <p>Lack of incentives to pursue education based on credits, education requirement non-consistent. Kids are getting so far behind that they don't see their way out.</p>
<p>Issue/Topic: Discussion of work concerning the Municipal Courts and D.U.I.</p>	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Karen Ashby explained that an email was sent to judicial juvenile officers around the state asking how Juvenile DUI issues were handled in the Districts. There are lots of inconsistencies on how this issue is handled.</p> <p>Discussions around Municipal courts/Juvenile courts and DUI filings. Inconsistencies on where Juvenile DUI cases are filed (County courts, Juvenile courts, others) and inconsistencies on sentencing, detentions, treatments. When there are multiple charges including a DUI, the case would be filed in Juvenile courts but risk of duplication of charges as DUI could be filed elsewhere. Who is responsible for supervision? In Juvenile courts, parents are engaged (juvenile supervision) but not in adult courts.</p> <p>Should the DUI committee call for larger representations and revisiting the system structure?</p>
<p>Revisiting where the Juvenile Justice System begins</p>	<p>The group reviewed the Children's code and the Juvenile Justice System in the Legislative declaration 19-2-102.</p> <p>The Legislative declaration addresses 'sanction' and then 'treatment' on juvenile system.</p> <p>Discussions around mental health and addictions. What do we do when a kid is out of control and what resource alternatives are available to Police? Should the youth be assessed and should there be identification of resources/services /treatments prior to reference to Law enforcement?</p> <p>House Bill 1451 Collaborative Management Program passed in 2004 calling for the development of collaborative management of multiagency services to coordinate services for children and families.</p> <p>Since HB 1451, there have been fewer placements of youth out of the home.</p> <p>Use of Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC). The JAC assesses and triages to resources. Consistency of continuum of care.</p> <p>Municipal court: Municipal courts are not everywhere. Should the Municipal Courts handle Juvenile cases at all? Municipal Courts are not in the Youth/Child justice system. At the next Judicial Task Force, there will be a presentation on a system between 2 systems (between municipal courts and larger role for Municipal court).</p> <p>Should the group develop a system around a response to youth at risk with</p>

	<p>the use of Juvenile behavioral resources and continuum of care response?</p> <p>Group decided to further discuss the structure of the Youth/Child justice system. These discussions will also include the values of assessment for children, families, victims and communities.</p>
<p>Issue/Topic: Possible recommendations for legislation this year</p>	<p>This agenda item will be discussed at future meetings.</p>
<p>Issue/Topic: Next Meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting is on September 15, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Juvenile Assessment Center.</p>

Meeting ended at 12:02 pm.