

## Juvenile Justice Task Force

December 15, 2011 - 9:00 am-12:00 pm  
JAC Center, Lakewood, CO

**Attendees:**

Regina Huerter, Denver Crime Prevention and Control Commission  
 Stan T. Paprocki, Division of Behavioral Health  
 Jeff McDonald, Jefferson County JAC  
 Susan Colling, State Court Administrators Office  
 Charles Garcia, Juvenile Parole Board  
 Kim Dvorchak, Co. Juvenile Defender Coalition  
 Bonnie Saltzman, JJDP Representative  
 Michelle Brinegar, 8th District Attorney's Office  
 Bill Kilpatrick, Golden Police Department  
 Julie Krow, Department of Human Services  
 Meg Williams, Division of Criminal Justice  
 John Gomez, Division of Youth Corrections  
 Don Quick, 17th District Attorney's Office

**Staff:**

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

**Task Force Members Absent:**

Norene Simpson, Indigent Defense Counsel  
 Linda Newell, State Senate  
 Inta Morris, Department of Higher Education  
 Regis Groff, Retired State Senator  
 Karen Ashby, Juvenile Court Presiding Judge  
 Joe Higgins, Mesa County Partners  
 Beth McCann, House of Representative  
 Kirk Henwood, Montrose County SD RE-1J

**Guests:**

Anna Lopez, Division of Criminal Justice  
 Jerry Adamek, Rite of Passage  
 Lloyd Malone, CDHS  
 Shawn Cohn, Denver Juvenile Probations  
 Christie Donner, CCJRC  
 Susan Caskey, Impact  
 John Riley, CCJRC  
 Ashley Ratliff, ADC/CJDC

<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Welcome and Introduction/ Review of the last minutes and preview of this meeting</p>	<p>Regina Huerter welcomed the group. The task force members and guests introduced themselves.</p> <p>Regina Huerter introduced Sheila Corrigan from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Lloyd Malone provided a brief introduction and indicated that Annie E. Casey Foundation was asked by the Governor of Colorado to assess the issues around the performance of Colorado's child welfare and, to assist in developing strategies in the context of the child welfare reform.</p> <p>The Colorado Department of Human Services and the E. Casey Foundation started their study in July 2011 and completed the assessment in October 2011.</p>
<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Presentation: Annie E. Casey Foundation</p>	<p>Presentation from Sheila E. Corrigan, A.E.C. on the evaluation of the child welfare system in Colorado.</p> <p>Sheila Corrigan reported that Colorado had solid outcomes and the capacity to build a best practice child welfare system. Colorado has made progress towards more family-strengthening practices and has taken up several initiatives that promise to improve results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessment: Colorado has had many assessments.</li> <li>- Congregate care: Colorado places too many children and youth in institutional and group settings (27% of children are in congregate care which ranks Colorado 2<sup>nd</sup> nationwide). An appropriate use of congregate care would range around 10%. A national consensus is building that congregate care is an ineffective placement and should be used as little as possible. Reducing over-reliance on congregate care frees up funding to build supports and</li> </ul>

	<p>services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Permanency: Youth in Colorado’s foster care system overwhelmingly want permanence; without it, their futures are likely to be unstable. Colorado struggles with finding legal permanence for teens.</li> <li>- Re-entry: one of child welfare’s most important practice measures; further analysis is necessary to know how big a problem it is in Colorado</li> <li>- Focusing and strengthening Colorado’s performance management system will bolster congregate care reduction and other reform efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suggested short-term plan (year 1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Begin congregate care rightsizing,</li> <li>➤ modify the CPM plan to improve permanency outcomes,</li> <li>➤ improve performance management,</li> <li>➤ adjust financing to encourage family based care</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Suggested long-term plan (year 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continue congregate care rightsizing,</li> <li>➤ Remain focused on permanency through Colorado Practice Model</li> <li>➤ Enhance performance management system to manage with data</li> <li>➤ Adjust finances to support family and community services</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Shawn Cohn suggested that the Georgetown project could be included in the cross-over youth practice model.</p> <p>Michelle Brinegar commented that most of the children are being placed in the DYC as a result of child placement failure.</p> <p>Julie Krow mentioned that the savings generated from the reduction of congregate beds would be reinvested in treatments, services, families etc. Julie added that discussions have been initiated about adoption subsidies and supports to enhance permanency.</p> <p>Lloyd Malone reported that the “Colorado Practice model” (CPM) started 2 years ago. The model is developing a system in partnership with families and communities with goal of preserving and supporting families. The CPM initiative adopts methods of prevention and early intervention and is developing a number of strategies and initiatives.</p> <p>Kim Dvorchak mentioned a similar report issued by the National Juvenile Justice network.</p>
<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Introduction of proposed legislative changes from the education group</p>	<p>Regi Huerter presented on the proposed legislative changes from the Education working group concerning how education is provided and funded for youth in detention facilities. (straw vote). C.R.S. 19-2-402(3) as amended.</p> <p>Regi Huerter initiated discussions around the draft recommendations proposed by the Education working group. Regi informed that the Education working group will be meeting tomorrow, December 16, 2011 and that any proposed language changes from this group will be included and submitted back to the JJTF members for an electronic straw vote. If these recommendations pass the JJTF, they will move forward and presented to the CCCJ on January 13, 2011.</p> <p><b>“Stakeholders for Detention Education”</b> <b>Juvenile detention services – education (19-2-402 C.R.S.)</b></p>

	<p>(3) (a)</p> <p>1. <i>Proposed change of language: "The school boards.....is located, as required by the Chief Judge, shall..."</i></p> <p>2. "Shall provide education services that meet the same requirements as all other schools of that district": Same education standards in the detention facilities. Continuum of education. Training of educators: what they can bring or cannot in the school and their and the child safety. If they are going to be working with our facilities, need to be trained about safety such as a "teacher certification" for working in the detention facilities.</p> <p>Discussions around summer break being a disruption and an issue in the NYC facilities.</p> <p><i>Proposed changed of language: Shall provide no less education services than other schools of that district.</i></p> <p>(3) (d) This recommendation relates to transparency in the budget and posting of administration of the budget.</p> <p>The group discussed the issue of current school budget cuts and specified that the budget is statutorily allocated based on the population in detention.</p> <p>19-2-402-5 Juvenile Detention Centers: Catchment Areas</p> <p>(1) (a) Proposed change is to include a Colorado Department of Education representative to the group for this criteria for reporting.</p> <p>Discussion page: Catchment area.</p> <p>Detention Education 101 – Information</p> <p>Kim Dvorchak suggested adding defense youth onto the list. The group discussed that SB-94 task force has by-laws representation of public defenders.</p> <p>The group agreed to vote electronically after the Education working group meeting.</p>
<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> <b>Truancy Working Group</b></p>	<p>Meg Williams reported that the Truancy working group will meet tomorrow, December 16, 2011. The Truancy group is working on legislative recommendations regarding prevention, early intervention and detention for truancy.</p>
<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> <b>Assessments Working Group</b></p>	<p>Jeff MacDonald presented on handouts regarding Juvenile Justice Assessment Flow and discussed the issues of inconsistencies related to the assessment used and trainings on assessment tools.</p> <p>The Assessment working group is working on quality assurance, ongoing education for anyone involved with the JJ assessments, interpretation of results, research about over or under services and the match of the services to needs. Jeff also mentioned fidelity and technical assistance around EPIC. Resources and implementations are the main issues.</p>
<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> <b>Next meeting</b></p>	<p>Next meeting is on January 19, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Juvenile Assessment Center.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 12 pm.</p>