

**Juvenile Justice Task Force**

November 15, 2012 - 9:00 am-4:30 pm  
 Denver Sheriff's Office Training Center, 5440 Roslyn St, Denver CO 80266

**Attendees:**

Regina Huerter, Denver Crime Prevention and Control Commission  
 Karen Ashby, Juvenile Court Presiding Judge  
 Stan T. Paprocki, Division of Behavioral Health Office  
 Jeff McDonald, Jefferson County JAC  
 Don Quick, 17th District Attorney's Office  
 Beth McCann, House of Representative  
 Charles Garcia, Community at Large  
 Meg Williams, Division of Criminal Justice  
 Susan Colling, State Court Administrators, Probation Services  
 Michelle Brinegar, 8th District Attorney's Office  
 John Gomez, Division of Youth Corrections  
 Kelly Friesen, SB94, 14<sup>th</sup> JD/Grand Co. J.J. Dept  
 Bonnie Saltzman, JJDP Representative  
 Norene Simpson, Indigent Defense Counsel

**Staff:**

Ken Plotz, Consultant  
 Laurence Lucero, Division of Criminal Justice

**Task Force Members Absent:**

Linda Newell, State Senate  
 Julie Krow, Department of Human Services  
 Joe Higgins, Mesa County Partners  
 Kim Dvorchak, Co. Juvenile Defender Coalition  
 Bill Kilpatrick, Golden Police Department

**Guests:**

Justin Cooper, Jeffco - 1451  
 Deborah Ward-White, CMECC/FAC  
 Sara Bastani, Juvenile Parole Board  
 Paul Herman, Consultant  
 Jerry Adamek,  
 Karen Yarberrry/Jefferson Hills  
 John Riley, CCJRC  
 Claudia Zundel, CDHS

<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b></p> <p>Welcome/ Introduction</p>	<p>Regina Huerter welcomed the group. Regi introduced Paul Herman who consults for the CCCJJ since its creation five years ago and thanked Paul for facilitating this meeting. The Task Force members and guests introduced themselves.</p> <p>Review 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.</p> <p>The purpose and goals of the meeting are to envision a better Juvenile Justice System for Colorado that aligns with the guiding principles established by the Juvenile Task Force. What are the key components in the Juvenile Justice system that work well right now and what area should be explored?</p> <p>What strategic alignment throughout the system should we look at and what are the other opportunities to support Colorado kids and communities?</p>
<p><b>Issue/Topic</b></p> <p>Introduction</p>	<p>Paul Herman engaged the group into discussing the components of the Juvenile Justice system as it is today in Colorado and the components from other states' models. Paul also asked the group about other elements they wish to see in Colorado.</p>

	Presented Powerpoint (below).
<p><b>Issue/Topic</b></p> <p>Components</p>	<p>Components and elements that might go into the ideal system:</p> <p><b>Preadjudication</b></p> <p>Looking at models from other states, Montana uses a probation officer in the front end of process. Once arrested, a juvenile is assigned a probation officer who assesses the juvenile to determine which services are needed and to possibly divert early on.</p> <p>In Colorado, some youths are diverted early by law enforcement in some communities but not consistently across the state. There have been some initial discussions about doing diversion at the point of contact with law enforcement. Assessment is made through Assessment Centers.</p> <p>Missouri refers for early screening and subsequent assessments (risks and others) if warranted by screens. In Colorado, only the youths that have entered the system are being assessed for risks to re-offend. There is no screen at the municipal level until juvenile receives 3 summonses in municipal court at which point the juvenile is transferred to the delinquency system. This occurs in some but not all municipal jurisdictions.</p> <p>Who are "all youths" and how do youths come to the attention of the JJ system?</p> <p>In Colorado, all youths that are in custody should be screened by SB94, even those summoned to municipal courts but this is not happening. Only about 25% of youths arrested get screened. Issue of law enforcement not having the resources to bring youths to assessment/detention centers due to transportation challenges or resources. Detention screens can be done over the phone but issues of transportation remain.</p> <p>What is the point of contact? Contact can be with law enforcement or with schools that lead to screening and information sharing.</p>

Where should the screening/assessment take place? Should it be in contact with Law Enforcement or right after arrest? The problem is that the screening is not always occurring at the contact with Law Enforcement point.

The goal is to provide the right service at the right time with outcome to prevent reoffending.

What are the factors of the screening? Criminal history, risk (criminogenic behavior), previous services/interventions, needs (youth and family).

Where does "Lecture and Release" fit in?

In the child welfare system, there are cross-system youths now committing a delinquent act. When screened and assessed with needs, the youths receive the appropriate care. "1451" kids have multi needs and involved with multi agencies.

**Ideal system:**

Every Judicial District should have a multidisciplinary team to address youth with cross system involvement (can be 1451 if available or other existing structures). Could include Human Services and Judicial Districts.

Pre-adjudication:

Case management: There is a need for one person to help youth and families navigate system, get services, and address needs.

If there are serious family issues, should there be some type of family intervention?

Recommendations for "Lecture and Release".

Information gathering through schools, municipal courts, 1451.

**Child in need:**

How do we know? When is the 1<sup>st</sup> time a child with behavioral issue is identified (non-safety risk youth to self or others)?

- School.
- 1451.

For youths with safety concern: Mobile Crisis Team.

Right services at the right time }  
Right Staff }  
Proven practices } 5 KEYS  
Safe environment }  
Community Restorative Justice }

Is there a screen to screen? A process that determines first thing how to handle youth either outside Juvenile Justice system or in Juvenile Justice system?

	<p>Juvenile Justice system should only be for youths who have certain needs. Some youths really need to stay out of Juvenile Justice system for better outcomes.</p> <p>In an ideal system, who should go to Juvenile Justice system and who should not?</p> <p>Certain behaviors should be decriminalized and go to non-legal/non-formal process. For instance the following behaviors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interference offenses (with classroom).</li> <li>- Truants.</li> <li>- Run-away.</li> <li>- All status offenses?</li> <li>- Beyond control of parent.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issue/Topic</b></p> <p>Breakout Groups</p>	<p><b>Ideal System: What does the picture look like?</b></p> <p><u>Group A:</u> Design a “Family App” concept based on system. "All in the Family App" philosophy and approach to addressing kid’s needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target: Preschool age and up non-system related youth. Provide help and supports in community to help kids and families in needs to get access to services and meet their needs. Family Resource Center and use the Family to Family Model.</li> <li>• Alternative family intervention in community system at early age.</li> <li>• Community becomes a system (collaborative systems) of supporting families and youth. Families and schools have to be part of the community system. The customer/family is driving the sustainability: the family legislatively mandates.</li> <li>• Family decision making. Use family system as a strength with intent is to empower the family.</li> <li>• Family and community resource center and as a team decide what next steps should be. Mandates/criteria before you go to next phase to look at the “App”.</li> </ul> <p>Teacher uses "All in the Family" app makes a referral to family/community resource center.</p> <p>A navigator is assigned who follows all the way through, then school, family, child and other natural supports work together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Screen/assess.</li> <li>- Family decision making model.</li> <li>- Makes referrals.</li> <li>- Action (services received).</li> </ul> <p>All in the Family App throughout and interfaces with other systems.</p> <p>Next Step - Safety Concerns: Mobile Crisis Team. Mobile Crisis Application – can be used by all and uses your phones GPS to know your location.</p>

	<p><u>Group B:</u>  The event could be a minor triggering event, not necessarily a delinquent act.  A Collaborative Management (CMP) would screen the youth. Function of triage. A family advocate would be assigned.  In an informal process, a contract would be entered with family/youth and refer to identified services needed. The CMP would have supervision and administrative oversight.  Families have to be engaged actively.  How to ensure ability to provide the services the family need?  There has to be a system to enforce the contract for the providers, not the families.</p> <p>Formal process is defined by risk to others.  Probations, courts would ensure accountability.</p> <p>Intent to be preventive. Today, we are putting youths into the system so they can get services. In this system, they can get services.</p> <p><u>Group C:</u>  In this concept, kids that are in crisis are identified through school.  Universal response. Focused on schools.  Universal response is general, specialized and intensive services.  Schools are the key component and the goal is to keep the kids in school.  Mental health tool kit.  Idea of Family Resource Center housed in school.  Intersection of system in the community. How do we support the schools to being integrated part of a community system and not only a referral source to a system?  Is it the school's function? School is the place when the event happened.  Key: Success in school. Education is the goal.</p>				
<p><b>Issue/Topic</b>  Full Group</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Event at school/community/home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some go straight to Juvenile Justice (1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> degree Felony/Risk to others).</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Screen (out or in); out means leave alone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decision for further response.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <table border="1" data-bbox="370 1885 1528 1990"> <tr> <td data-bbox="370 1885 950 1955">Out of JJ system</td> <td data-bbox="950 1885 1528 1955">In the JJ system</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="370 1955 950 1990">3. Assessment of needs, criminogenic needs</td> <td data-bbox="950 1955 1528 1990">3. Assessment of needs, criminogenic needs</td> </tr> </table>	Out of JJ system	In the JJ system	3. Assessment of needs, criminogenic needs	3. Assessment of needs, criminogenic needs
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	<p>and legal review (on all kids getting to this point) 4. Refer to multidisciplinary team (non JJ)</p>	<p>and legal review (on all kids getting to this point) 4. Refer to JJ system</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EVENT</b></p> <p>How does such system respond to the event? Who can decide to send in the Juvenile System? Define the behaviors that take out of the community response.</p> <p>Paul suggested that a group tease out this system. The group decided that the Systems Improvement working group should be defining the core concepts of such system before next Juvenile Justice Task Force meeting.</p>	
<p><b>Issue/Topic</b> Amendment 64</p>	<p>Charles Garcia discussed the unintended consequences of the passing of Amendment 64 on the juveniles. He proposed that a sub-group be formed and work on the drafting a legislation.</p>	
<p><b>Issue/Topic:</b> Next meeting</p>	<p><b>Next JJTF meeting scheduled on December 20, 2012 is cancelled. The meeting is replaced with a meeting of the Systems Improvement Working Group from 9:00 a.m. at the JAC.</b> <b>Next JJTF meeting is on January 4, 2013 from 1pm-4pm at the JAC.</b> Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.</p>	