



Governor Terry E. Branstad  
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds  
San Wong, Director

**DMC Subcommittee**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
Lucas State Office Building  
321 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Rms. 319-320  
Des Moines, Iowa

September 16, 2015

**Present:** Wayne Ford, Chair; LaTasha DeLoach; Bob Greenlee; Stephanie Hernandez; Sandy Lint; John Spinks; Miguel Trevino; Chris Wyatt

**Others:** Vivian Hayashi

**Staff:** Dave Kuker

- **Welcome/Introductions**
- **Agenda - Additions/Amendments**

Wayne Ford, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

- **Approval of 7-14-15 Meeting Summary**

**Unanimously approved.**

- **DMC Reduction Plan 2015/16**

Dave Kuker noted that meetings had been held with local officials/stakeholders in several communities. Attendees included representatives from the court, NAACP, community advocates, prosecution, defense, schools, youth-serving agencies, DHR Board, and law enforcement. CJJP staff are encouraging the following:

- active engagement of diverse local DMC groups,
- local planning that utilizes relevant data,
- effective school discipline,
- police diversion programs for minor offenses to divert kids away from front-end system processing,
- and the implementation of risk-based screening instruments for Juvenile Court Services (JCS).

In August 2016, a progress report is due to state leaders regarding the CASP plan recommendations. The plan fits with the DMC Sub's and the JJAC's DMC goals and objectives.

- Ongoing Provision of Data  
Kuker reported that CJJP had recently signed a data agreement with the Department of Education (DE), Department of Human Services (DHS), and the State Court Administrator's Office (SCA). It will provide the vehicle for a variety of different

information related to DMC. Sandy Lint asked to explore ways for CJJP and DHS to consider potential vehicles for DHS & CJJP to share state and local DMC data.

- State-Level DMC Events

Kuker reported that he had attended the Iowa Summit on Justice and Disparities (organizer-Betty Andrews, NAACP) in August at Des Moines Area Community College (Ankeny Campus). He provided a CASP plan workshop at that event. He reported there was broad-based attendance including Governor Branstad, Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, State Department Heads (Departments of Corrections and Public Safety, SCA), legislators, and law enforcement agencies. Governor Branstad announced at that event that he would be seating a Working Group on Justice Policy Reform that would study and make legislative recommendations for the upcoming legislative session related to DMC in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

In October 2015, Rep. Helen Miller will hold a more broad-based event in Cedar Falls on the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Campus.

The JJAC funding for DMC (from the Annie E. Casey Foundation) will go toward a juvenile justice training event to further local planning. Representatives from larger communities will be invited to attend, likely to be held around June 2016.

- Implementation of Electronic Version of DST

Kuker reported that the electronic Detention Screening Tool (DST) has been piloted in Sioux City. Training is underway in select additional jurisdictions. Work is still underway to finalize issues regarding the finalized version of the electronic application.

- **Potential Legislative Priorities**

- Youth Engagement

Much of the legislative discussion focused on the need for the DMC Sub to seek potential vehicles to get input/engagement/facilitate dialogue with youth of color. Comments included:

- Need to reach out to youth and families in their communities
- Age groups included secondary school aged youth in select metropolitan communities
- Looking at existing groups (possibly local youth NAACP chapters; school groups; Iowa Youth Congress-IYC; State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council-SIYAC; and Achieving Maximum Potential Groups - AMP) to find youth of color
- Efforts should include vehicles to engage girls of color
- Can youth talk of specific issues related to implicit bias

**There was unanimous agreement for a subcommittee to find ways to better engage youth in DMC efforts.**

- Citation in Lieu of Arrest

There was discussion of efforts in Broward County, Florida where a local citation program exists. It was noted that the program includes significant prevention related funding to support the effort. There was concern over whether youth/families may be able to afford the fines associated with a citation program. The DMC Sub suggested the

need to learn more and have a broader understanding of citation programs before taking any further action on the matter.

- Racial Impact Statement Law

Ford provided a brief overview of the racial impact statement law, Iowa Code Section 2.56 which requires assessment of legislation that could affect the population of prisons, jails, or community-based corrections (CBC). He noted that the bill also included requirements for request for proposals (state funding opportunities) with potential to affect minority populations. Ford is working with existing legislators and the Legislative Services Bureau (LSB) regarding the potential of expanding the law to include issues related to education and employment. If he is seeking DMC Sub or JJAC support for the expansion he will ask accordingly. Ford stated that Iowa, Oregon, and Connecticut are the only states that have this law and invited members to express their interest in studying this law.

- **Attendance**

Ford talked of the need to have all Subcommittee members active and engaged in the group's work. He noted the importance of communication, whether or not members could attend. If there are health issues affecting attendance that will be considered, but communication with staff/himself was important in such situations. Ford will work with staff to insure electronic forms of communication are available for meeting participation, especially for those persons that have extensive travel distances.

Ford indicated that he will be working with CJJP to determine if there are additional members to be added to the group in calendar 2016.

- **Local DMC Updates**

**Burlington** – Update by John Wauters – Wauters noted that a local judge is working with the NAACP to provide a discussion 10/1/15.

**Davenport** – Update by Stephanie Hernandez - \$5.4 million in funding is available for victims of crimes. Funding areas include rapid rehousing and domestic violence. Family Resources is looking for ideas on how to service victims.

**Des Moines** – Update by Ford – he reported that Brown and Black Forums will be held for Republican presidential candidates (Drake Law School) 12/3/15, and for Democratic Candidates 1/11/15 (Drake Law School). Kuker noted that local JCS officials and judges had seated a diverse group that was engaged in formal discussion related to DMC in the juvenile justice system. CJJP staff had presented and provided state local jj data to the group.

**Iowa City** – Update by LaTasha DeLoach ---

- A local (Iowa City) event/presentation was provided by, David Goodson, a DMC provider and activist from Waterloo. State Representative Mary Mascher was actively involved in that event.
- On October 21 or 22, 2015 there will be a local panel discussion including local law enforcement, JCS, and the schools.
- Local racial and ethnic disparity plans are available on their website.

- **Future Meetings – 12/15/15 and 2/17/15**

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Kuker  
Executive Officer  
Iowa Department of Human Rights  
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning