



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg
San Wong, Director

JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee

MEETING MINUTES GOOGLE MEET August 11, 2021

- Present:** LaTasha DeLoach, Interim Chair; Whitney Buchanan; Terrance Campbell; Kim Cheeks; Julie Clark-Albrecht; Diamond Denney; Hon. Kevin McKeever; Ivy Menke; Stephan Pearson
- Others:** Ana Clymer; Hillary Ojeda; Jennifer Tibbetts
- Staff:** Jill Padgett; Kayla Powell; Julie Rinker

Welcome and introductions

LaTasha DeLoach, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. She welcomed those in attendance. Introductions were made. A quorum was present later in the meeting and required actions were conducted at that time. Due to COVID-19 and social distancing concerns, the meeting was held virtually via Google Meet.

Approval of minutes

Hon. Kevin McKeever moved to approve the minutes from the May 26 meeting, seconded by Stephan Pearson. The motion was unanimously approved.

CJJP Update

Jill Padgett reported the following:

- The application for the federal delinquency prevention grant has been submitted. If awarded, the grant would provide \$1.5 million over five years and allow statewide expansion of pre-charge diversion. A majority of the funds would be subcontracted to local communities for pre-charge diversion efforts. Approval should be known soon.
- Separately, a federal grant application to reduce risk for girls in the juvenile justice system has been submitted. The funds will be focused on services for Black girls in Iowa
- Title II funds—We have received our initial approval for these funds which are distributed across the eight judicial districts (based upon child population) to provide services for youth and families. Judicial districts are currently working on project applications.
- Budget Analyst—Jeanne Foster has retired and Angela Leonetti has been hired as her replacement.
- Youth & Family Engagement Summit—Recordings from this event are available and a link will be shared with members following the meeting.

Coalition for Juvenile Justice Racial & Ethnic Disparities Conference - November 2-3, Virtual

Padgett reminded members that information on the conference has already been shared. Members who wish to attend (virtually) should contact Julie Rinker. The JJAC has approved reimbursement costs for a limited number of virtual attendees.

Mitigating Racial and Gender Bias Training Recap

Members who attended this training provided a review—LaTasha DeLoach, Ana Clymer, Terrance Campbell. All thought it was great training, that presenters engaged the virtual audience, all liked the breakout sessions and appreciated the handouts that accompanied the training. Members unable to attend expressed interest in attending a training session, if offered.

Spotlight: Local DMC Efforts/ Information Sharing

- Terrance Campbell, Chief Juvenile Court Officer- District 1

Padgett congratulated Terrance Campbell on his new role as Chief Juvenile Court Officer in the 1st Judicial District.

Campbell provided information on “Tomorrow’s Leaders” for boys and “Sisterhood” for girls—both programs support at-risk youth referred to the program. The programs for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students meet at the middle schools during lunch. Sessions/speakers involve community members from a variety of high profile backgrounds. Curricula used are “Dare to be King” and “Voices”. Students are eager to participate. A variety of incentives are offered—field trips, clothing, and other forms of support.

Padgett asked about expansion to high school youth. Campbell reported that while permission was granted from the schools, finding a meeting place outside of the school setting was a concern and then the pandemic hit. However, youth relationships beyond 8th grade are maintained.

Diamond Denney asked about the mentors, mandatory reporting, and barriers. Campbell responded that workers involved in the project are system professionals and are certified in CPR and mandatory reporting.

- Subcommittee member updates and sharing

There were no updates.

Iowa Taskforce for Young Women (ITFYW) Joint Project Recommendations

Padgett & Kayla Powell reviewed possible joint projects between this subcommittee and the ITFYW. Padgett noted that the ITFYW selected healing centered engagement, disrupting the school-court/prison pipeline, and parent partners for families involved with the juvenile justice system. She asked members to prioritize projects.

Jennifer Tibbetts noted that at the August 6 ITFYW meeting, members thought more education was needed prior to recommending best practices for LGBTQ youth. The Task Force will be arranging presentations from Iowa Safe Schools and One Iowa to learn more.

After a brief discussion, members decided to focus on healing-centered engagement, disrupting the school-court/prison pipeline, parent partners for families involved with the juvenile justice system, and to learn more about best practices for LGBTQ youth involved with the juvenile justice system.

DMC Goals and Objectives Updates

DeLoach reported that she has asked Stephan Pearson and Diamond Denney to serve as part of an executive committee to assist with some of the work such as attending other committee meetings, reviewing agendas, and filling in gaps where needed.

- Visible Black Girls in the Juvenile Justice System work group (DMC Goal 2, Objective A)

DeLoach provided info on the group's membership and purpose, and reviewed the goals and priorities surrounding Black girls in the juvenile justice system. She encouraged members to provide contact information for others who may be interested in serving on the workgroup.

- Deep end youth report update (DMC Goal 3, Objective A)

Padgett provided a brief overview on the deep-end youth report. She noted that following the closure of the Girls' State Training School, a report on deep-end girls was developed through a grant as part of the Iowa Girls' Justice Initiative.

Currently, two data reports (deep-end boys and deep-end girls) are under development. The boys cohort comprises 454 boys from July 2018 through June 2019. The report focuses on data, racial disparity, and will identify six key findings. Findings show disproportionality throughout the data points reviewed. Upon release of the report, a similar report will be started for the July 2019 through June 2020 period. More information will be shared at a future meeting.

Cheeks asked that 'deep end' be changed. She was concerned that it targets youth included in the report. Padgett and DeLoach both responded that they did not want to label youth. DeLoach suggested using 'experiences of youth' or 'experiences of young men of color'. Padgett suggested 'experiences of youth who meet the criteria for placement at the Boys State Training School'.

Padgett noted that these reports will be updated yearly and shared with legislators.

Adjourn

- Next Meeting: November 10, 2021

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary