

Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee  
Reinvestment Subcommittee

04/19/2024

**Program Updates**

**Mental Health First Aid:** Program funded through the EBP fund, we are in year one and going extremely well. We have had 36 new officers attend the training, with other trainings scheduled later this year.

**Gender Responsivity Training:** Program funded through EBP fund, with 35 officer that have been training, with another training scheduled with 20 officers. With additional trainings we will have 90 to 100 officers trained over the next 3 months.

**Family Engagement:** Family Engagement Training has been going on in the northeast section of the state, and that training will be continuing through June throughout the state. We have already had great feedback and support. The training is being presented by PCG, with KDOC staff as well.

**Moral Recognition Therapy:** We do not have enough staff need in order to host this training. It is a very intense training but not enough new officers with the need. We are looking at virtual options but we do not have enough information at this time for any update.

**Behavioral Health Workgroup:** Our Behavioral Health Workgroup met last month and will be meeting again on May 1<sup>st</sup> with Children's Service League, and will be talking about their services and 1-800 children. The group is curious about some of those services and looking to offer enhancements or support.

**Parent Project:** We currently do not have enough staff that are in need of this training to host another training. We are continuing to look at virtual options, but in order to host an in person training we would need more officers that have a need for the training.

**Juvenile Defense:** Gault Center has created a working draft of juvenile defense standards including ethical rules, case law, and national precedent. Gault also hosted a lunch and learn with Kansas BIDS on youth-defense specialization. This led to a request for additional training that will be coordinated through the Gault training team. Additionally, Gault is preparing for the Kansas Youth Justice Summit coming up on April 25<sup>th</sup> primarily for defense attorneys, but also those involved in juvenile justice and some of the JJOC members are attending. (see additional attachment for more information)

TGC is partnering with another agency to collect input and data from system impacted youth. That information will be used to highlight the importance of juvenile specific defense standards.

Lastly, TGC has been meeting with JJOC members, and will be bringing in KAG members, to plan a meeting with statewide stakeholders to discuss juvenile defense standards, system changes, and discover somewhere to house juvenile defense in Kansas.

A more detailed update will be provided with the meeting minutes.

**Family Engagement:** It is a ongoing program training that started last week, with 90 officer trained so far. The trainings are spread out around Kansas over a 3 month period. These include anyone caring a caseload and those with Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center. They are working on the family engagement manual that will be available for families to assist them in navigating the court process, available throughout the juvenile justice system. In March, we rolled out new community engagement standards for community supervision. We are close to releasing new standards for juvenile intake and assessment and IIP programs.

**JAG-K:** No Update

#### **Stepping Up:**

- A new staff person from Kansas started at CSGJC to support this work.
- Completion of KS JJ one-pager.
- CSG mapped out the existing policies and data infrastructure for the state landscape analysis, including reviewing juvenile justice statutes, policies, data collection, new database implementation, and required detention screening tools.
- Conducted outreach to several key state agencies to support cross-system leadership, including onboarding key state agencies and leaders (KDOC, KDADS, KDCF, OJA, and Governor's Office) for the project, and hosted several core team meetings to facilitate cross-system collaboration and leadership of the initiative with KDOC, KDADS, and KDCF.
- Hosted presentations to spread knowledge and gain buy-in/support for the project.
- We reviewed KDOC dashboards to produce five-year trends on intake, immediate intervention plans, referrals to services, and commitments. We met with KDOC and assessed the current availability of data.
- Facilitated three system mapping discussions with DCF, KDADS and KDOC to discuss policies, funding, and areas for improvement. One with OJA is being scheduled along with additional fiscal mapping conversations with each agency.
- The local working group Juvenile Justice Stepping Up (JJSU) has met one time - we provided members a brief introduction to the JJ Stepping Up Project and shared introductions. We are working to identify additional members (lived experience, CMHC, LEO, etc.); however,

so far have representatives including JDC professionals from Shawnee, Douglas, Sedgwick, Wyandotte, Butler, and Crawford Counties. We are in the process of scheduling the next meeting for the week of April 29th. We recently added a NAMI professional (Sherrie Vaughn) and a Community Corrections Director (Steve Willis, SNCO) to the JJSU, they haven't yet had the opportunity to attend a meeting.

- We are forming the statewide task force and have conducted outreach to legislators with several already confirmed including Rep. Stephen Owens, Rep. Brenda Landwehr, Rep. Susan Concannon, Sen. Molly Baumgardner, Rep Susan Ruiz, Sen. Ethan Corson. We will begin recruiting additional stakeholders in the next couple of weeks and launch the task force in May.

***JJOC Vision Statement***

*Improve the lives and well-being of all youth in Kansas.*

***JJOC Mission Statement***

*The Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) is a statutorily defined, multidisciplinary team of stakeholders of youth-serving systems. The JJOC is responsible for regularly reviewing information and data on progress and outcomes across all parts of those systems. The JJOC provides policy and funding recommendations and influences stakeholders across agencies and branches of government, on sound, data-driven, evidence-based implementation, and sustainability of juvenile justice reforms.*