

REINVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE JJOC

Minutes

December 3, 2018 at 9:00 am
Judicial Center, Fatzer Court Room

Members Present:

Judge Delia York, Max Mendoza, Kevin Emerson

Members via Phone:

Former Sen. Greg Smith, Megan Milner, Melody Pappan, Kathy Armstrong

Members Absent:

Laura Blake Bors

Visitors:

Mike Fonkert from Kansas Appleseed

Committee Support:

Jennifer Christie, CJI

Karyl-Ann Roehl

The meeting began at 9:05 am. Attendance was taken and the results are shown above.

Approval of Minutes from 10/19/18 and 10/29/18

Kevin made the motion, and Judge York seconded, the minutes be approved as written. Motion passed.

Family Engagement

Comments on Presentation to JJOC

All agreed the presentation was well received and the JJOC seemed to be supportive of our recommendation. Next is to present the JJOC with a plan of action. Everyone complimented Melody on a job well done!

YLS Risk Level Data

Last week, Megan sent the statewide FY18 KDOC YLS data to members. Megan cautioned the data is only for KDOC assessments; Court Services data is not included. The data is summarized by domain. The Family domain shows moderate-to-high risk youth would most likely benefit from family engagement services. The Family domain looks at the dynamics in the youth's home, such as rules, supervision, discipline and the strength of family relationships.

Megan explained we have a report for each judicial district. With each report containing 22 pages, it is a wealth of information. These will be uploaded to SharePoint so committee members can see the data at the district level.

Megan's plan is to hand out these district-level reports to the Administrative Contacts at their 12/14/2018 meeting. She is going to ask them to tell us how they are addressing the needs in these areas. The information collected will be brought back to our subcommittee.

Judge York would like to see the same data for Court Services. From what we understand, Amy Raymond is collecting YLS data, manually, by risk level, not by domain. Jennifer is concerned the Family domain is not indicative of family engagement. Judge York agrees, saying she often wonders if the answers in the Family domain are accurate. She has noticed inconsistencies and she knows

some families withhold information. Megan reports the Family domain data has always looked like this and she has found it very interesting. Jennifer will ask Amy to provide Court Services YLS data. The reports for each judicial district will be available to subcommittee members via SharePoint.

Next Steps to Begin Implementation

Megan asked if this body was doing the implementation tasks or are we making recommendations and monitoring the progress of others. Melody suggested going through the steps and deciding how to handle each one.

The first two steps were discussed together: 1) defining a common language, 2) developing a basic guide for families. The recommendation in Melody's plan is for a focus group to decide the content and presentation of the family guide, then create a template for each judicial district to use and modify to meet their needs. The group talked about this subcommittee being the focus group. Outside of the expertise of this subcommittee, we would need to add a family advocate, someone from mental health, and possibly, a county attorney. Kathy said to ask line staff for input so this is not done is a void. The draft of the family guide will be presented to the JJOC for a final review.

Mike knows parents who would be excellent additions to the focus group. These parents are well educated and have expressed a need for a family guide like this. He knows these parents are willing to help. They may identify key issues we would otherwise overlook. Megan suggested someone from NAMI, maybe Rick Cagan. Mike thinks Cagan may have retired, yet is still active with Kansas United for Youth Justice. Judge York mentioned the director of Cornerstones of Care, David Irwin. She will contact him. Max was contacted by them last week, so probably has a contact information for them. Eckerd has contacted him also. Judge York will reach out to Don Hymer. Kathy asked if Don could get a contact or input from a rural area. Michelle Reichert works in independent living for DCF, and she may know of other people too.

Max said we want people who are well connected, yet not at a high level. Line staff has the insight; administrators know the logistics. There are probably some in rural areas who fill both roles. Jennifer suggested someone from a PRTF. We want broad representation, particularly between urban and rural areas. She reminded everyone *producing this family guide is a **big deal** and it should be rolled out as a **big deal***. The guide will be the result of input from experts in the field, and we will want to work hard to roll it out all over the state.

Judge York asked subcommittee members to send the name and contact information to K-A on or before December 10th. K-A will compile the suggestions and bring them to the next Reinvestment meeting.

Jennifer sees these first steps as, generally, a three-step process: 1) we create an outline of the guide and invite others to help us know what to write about for each section; 2) we write it based on the information from step 1, then invite the initial participants to review the draft; 3) we invite other people to review the draft to ensure we have good, useable, understandable information.

K-A researched family guides published by other states to learn how they outlined their manuals. She has six outlines to share and will send those out. She also noted the terms each state felt needed defining, and will include that list.

The third step in family engagement implementation is to train juvenile justice professionals in how to be engaging with families. Mike knows National Crittendon does this type of training. He will look into it and send the information to K-A. Melody knows Megan is working on this and has found a

curriculum through the same company offering the MHJJ class. Judge York wants us to vet potential trainings. K-A will check with Megan on this.

Step 4 is to review existing policies to look for ways to engage families, and Step 5 is creating standards for a family engagement program. KDOC/JS and OJA have standards in place, and districts use them to create their own standards. Kevin says OJA has a CSO manual used statewide. He knows OJA will want an active role in this step. Likewise, KDOC/JS staff should be involved. Melody says the people reviewing the standards should have family engagement training first so they are all on the same page in tackling this task. Mike says he is aware of people who would have input on this process.

Since Megan has already started some research in this area, we will ask Megan to report what she has learned about existing trainings at our next meeting. She will also check out other family guides for links. Melody suggested, and all agreed, to wait on Step 5. Megan is also researching Step 6, an evidence-based parent program. We will ask her to report on her progress at the next meeting. Melody suggested this step be coordinated with OJA. She also said the training could be offered to the parents of high risk youth who are not juvenile justice involved.

Again, Jennifer reminded the group we want to work hard at getting the word out about these developments as they are rolled out. These are big changes due to reform and we want all of the good press we can get!

Survey of Community Corrections and Court Services Staff

Because Mike is doing interviews with corrections staff, we decided to forgo the survey.

Ongoing Interviews

Mike reports the interviews are going well. He has a handful left to do. He plans to have his results recapped for our next meeting.

JCAB Technical Assistance

K-A handed out copies of statutes referring to the JCABs. Some of them are from 1997 when juvenile justice left SRS and became JJA. At that time, statutes called for a convener and/or facilitator position at JJA to assist JCABS in setting up juvenile justice in their communities and districts.

We want JCABS to refocus on their purpose, goals, and what they are allowed to do by law. A facilitator may be needed to accomplish this. Each district operates differently and JCABS are constantly changing. With a facilitator, the JCABS would have someone to reach out to. Jennifer feels having one person to work with the JCABS is reasonable. Max feels a facilitator would offer the needed accountability and guidance. The facilitator would also provide an objective point of view.

Jennifer noted the potential for the facilitator to attend up to 124 meetings a year. The cost of this position would be relatively low, and it would contribute a lot to sustainability. Max offered it may be a difficult balance if this is a KDOC employee; we may want to consider an outside contractor with KDOC and OJA. Max asked if the position could be filled by CJJ and Jennifer replied it is possible.

To move forward, K-A will meet with Megan to write up the roles and responsibilities of the JCABs. This will be used to create a mock job description for a JCAB facilitator position. The existing statutes will be reviewed to verify the language supports the role(s) we want the JCABs to fill. If not, we may look into new legislation.

The committee agreed Mike will be added to the Reinvestment Committee email group.

Agenda and Date for the Next Meeting

The agenda for the next meeting will include these topics:

- Review of Contacts Suggested for Focus Group
- Outline of Family Guide
- Court Services YLS Data
- CSO Manual
- Training Curriculums (for juvenile justice professionals and a parent program)
- Report on Community Corrections Interviews
- JCAB Technical Assistance

The next meeting will be Friday, January 11, 2019, from 9:00am – Noon.

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.

ASSIGNMENTS

Everyone

- **Submit names and contact information for possible focus group participants to K-A by 12/10/2018.**

Jennifer

- Request CS YLS Data

Judge York

- Contact David Irwin
- Contact Don Hymer

Kathy

- Contact Michelle Reichert

Kevin

- Obtain copy of current CSO Manual

Karyl-Ann

- Upload JD YLS reports to SharePoint
- Send out family guide outlines and terms to define
- Send Mike statewide YLS report
- Meet with Megan on JCAB responsibilities and facilitator position

Melody

- Send KA links about family engagement trainings
- Send KA copy of coordinator's job description

Mike

- Explore national Crittendon trainings