

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2022 at 10:30 am

SCDJJ Community Connections Center (CCC)

Members Present (In person): Acting Chair Jay Elliott, Rachel Burns (Youth), Rev. John Holler, Christopher Ross, Amanda Whittle, Oscar Douglas, Sara Goldsby, Dioné Carroll, Rev. Robert Reid, Roderick Pam, Oakley Dickson, Michael Leach, Kathryn Moorehead

Members Present (Via WebEx): Antiwan Tate, Jerry Allred, Hon. David Guyton, Blake Taylor

Staff Members Present: Aloysius Anderson and Kayla Boston (recorder)

Guests (In Person): Jeremy Days, Bonnie Burns, Christine Wallace, Angela Flowers, Andre Barnes, Eden Hendricks

- I. Welcome by the Chair:** Acting Chair Jay Elliott welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order, followed by introductions.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence for the victims in Ukraine.

- II. Approval of Minutes:** There are no minutes for the August 13, 2021 meeting due to audio issues.

III. Old Business

a. GJJAC Annual Report to the Governor

- b. Update on staffing for the Council:** Mr. Aloysius Anderson announced that Trevon Fordham has moved over to the SRO Program at OHSJP. Interviews have begun for the Juvenile Justice Specialist, the position should be filled in the next 60 days. The Compliance Monitor position should be posted 60 days following the Specialist position being filled.

c. Housekeeping matters

- i. Travel and Upcoming Travel:** Travel reimbursements take 4-6 weeks, please follow up with Mr. Anderson if you have not received your reimbursement within that timeframe. The CJJ SAG Council has a training coming up in May as well as a CJJ R/ED Conference in the fall. There will be an OJJDP Conference during the summer, Mr. Anderson will send out information with all dates.

- ii. Contact Information Update:** Mr. Anderson passed around an email list and asked that all members review their email address and make sure it is correct.

d. Title II Application for Formula Grants

i. Three Year State Plan 2021- 12/31/2023: The Three Year Plan outlines the system challenges unique to our state and discusses our current efforts and barriers to system improvement. The plan states the funding priorities and the use of the Title II funding.

ii. State Priorities/Updates: This year the council will submit an update to any funding priorities of the plan, next year a new plan will be submitted with an effective date of 2024.

iii. Development and Review:

e. Compliance Data and DSO Audit (Part II): The compliance data is where the OHSJP receives monthly logs from all institutions and lock-up facilities in South Carolina. When an audit is conducted, OHSJP works with DJJ to confirm any violations of DSO, Audit Jail Removal and S&S Separation.

f. Member Resource Inventory

i. Quick Ice Breaker: Mr. Anderson asked that each subcommittee meet together for a few minutes and discuss their vocational passions that they bring to the GJJAC.

g. Subcommittee Updates:

i. Executive Committee: No update.

ii. Emerging Leaders: No update.

iii. System Improvement: No update.

iv. Tribal: No update.

v. Government Relations: No update.

vi. Grants Review Committee: Mr. Chris Ross stated that he would like for more people to join the committee, Rev. Robert Reid volunteered to join.

vii. Racial and Ethnic Disparities: No update.

h. Agency Updates

i. None

i. DJJ Update: Director Eden Hendricks informed the council that the main thing that the agency is in the process of doing is reorganization, a complete overhaul of the way the agency is structured. DJJ will be relocating everyone from the Winthrop Building, located off of Bush River Road, back to the buildings at DJJ or to Shivers Road. The agency has hired a new Inspector General, Public Information Officer and a new Human Relations Manager, however, they are still trying to hire new officers. Director Hendricks informed the Council that she asked for \$20 million in her budget to build a state-run psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) and

the House has passed the budget. Director Hendricks has started an emergency project for \$1.8 million to do renovations to the Laurel lock-up unit. Director Hendricks stated that she wants to change the narrative about DJJ and talk about the positive things happening at the agency. Further discussion was held.

Ms. Amanda Whittle made a motion recommending that the Council supports Director Hendricks budget ask of \$20 million or more, as the general sees fit, for the design, build, operate and model of a state operated psychiatric residential treatment facility for the seriously mentally ill justice involved youth. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

IV. New Business

a. Workgroups/Subcommittee Meetings:

- i.** Chairman Elliott stated that the Executive Committee needs to meet in the next 30 days and all other subcommittees need to meet within the next 30-45 days. Mr. Anderson and Chairman Elliott will work on the schedule.

b. Member Action Items

- i.** Chairman Elliott would like the Council to revisit the idea of a Status Offender Taskforce.

V. Subgrantee Introductions/Presentations

a. SCDCA: Juvenile Court Program 2021:

- i.** Ms. Amanda Whittle explained that Kayla Capps is the administrator of the Juvenile Court Program at the Department of Children's Advocacy. The ultimate goal of the program is to identify alternatives to detention, reduce the institutionalization of status offenders, and to write the racial and ethnic disparities that are prevalent in the state.

b. SCDJJ: Earn & Return 2019 & 2020:

- i.** Ms. Stasia Bryant explained to the Council that the Earn & Return Project was created once DJJ realized that many of the youth that were court ordered to pay restitution could not afford to pay it. With this project, the youth complete community service hours and the agency converts the service hours into working hours, paying them minimum wage. There are currently over 104 community service sites available to the youth.

VI. Adjourn: Chairman Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.