

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2022 at 10:30 am

South Carolina Statehouse-Edgar Brown building, Room #467
1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201

Members Present (In person): Acting Chair Jay Elliott, Rachel Burns (Youth), Rev. John Holler, Amanda Whittle, Oscar Douglas, Dioné Carroll, Rev. Robert Reid, Roderick Pam, Oakley Dickson, Michael Leach, Kathryn Moorehead, Kenneth Rogers, Judge David Guyton, Antiwan Tate

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

Guests (In Person): Bonnie Burns, Christine Wallace, Eden Hendrick, Jordan Thomas, Kayla Capps, Tonya Barton, Sean Fay, Peggy McMaster, Aleksandra Chauhan, Stephen Scoff

- 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 Rev. Robert Reid led in prayer.

- II. Approval of Minutes:** Acting Chair Elliott asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the February 25, 2022 meeting. Ms. Kathryn Moorehead stated that she needs to be added to the attendee list. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

III. Old Business

a. Staff Updates

- i. Title II Subgrantee Applications:** Mr. Aloysius Anderson informed the Council that the Title II Formula Solicitation was released in February and 12 applications were received, requesting over \$1 million. There is \$540,000 in carryover funds available to award. The Grants Committee will meet to discuss and score the grant applications, their recommendations will be presented at the August meeting.

Chairman Elliott asked for two volunteers to join the Grants Committee, Ms. Amanda Whittle and Ms. Kathryn Moorehead volunteered to join.

- ii. 2022 Federal Solicitation/2021 Funding:** The 2021 funding is expected to be received prior to August 1st, which should be approximately \$670,000.
- iii. OHSJP Staffing:** The Juvenile Justice Specialist and Compliance Monitor position has been separated into two roles. Interviews will take place next week.

b. Subcommittee Updates

i. System Improvement: The Subcommittee met and discussed the four core requirements as well as the role of the GJJAC in the Juvenile Justice System.

ii. Grants Committee: No update.

iii. Emerging Leaders: The Council needs at least three more youth members to be appointed to the Council.

c. DJJ Update: Director Eden Hendricks announced that she is now the permanent director at DJJ.

Director Hendricks informed the Council that DJJ has reached a settlement with DOJ and they have a Compliance Monitor that is working on things for the settlement. Stage one of the new camera system project is almost complete, the agency is installing state of the art cameras throughout the facility. The renovation of the Laurel Building, which is used for solitary confinement, COVID, and other emergencies, is almost complete. This was an almost \$2 million project to renovate two wings of the building to make it safer for the youth. The agency is also putting doors on all rooms where there weren't any before, replacing all windows in the pods and painting all of the pods to make the facility more youth friendly. The detention center is supposed to house 72 youth, however, it averages over 100 youth. The agency is still experiencing staffing issues and is looking to hire new staff. There has been a complete reorganization of staff; the agency has hired a new Procurement Manager as well as a new Chief of Staff. DJJ is still moving forward with the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) which has expanded to Charleston and Aiken.

d. Other Agency Updates:

i. DMH: Director Kenneth Rogers informed the Council that the agency is meeting with architects on designing the new residential treatment facility which will be located on the northeast campus. The agency has been utilizing their inpatient facility to move youth from DJJ to DMH and also working with private partners to move the youth out to those facilities.

ii. DSS: Director Michael Leach informed the Council that, as of today, there are roughly 4,026 children and youth in foster care. DSS is serving over 20,000 youth through investigations, family preservation and foster care. Of the 4,026 children in foster care, 66% are in foster care, 22% are in kinship care, and 12% are in group home settings. The agency is seeing an increase in kinship care placements and a decrease in group home placements due to staffing issues and lack of placement. There are 17 youth out of state in psychiatric residential treatment facilities.

- e. **CJJ Conference Report/s:** Mr. Antiwan Tate gave a brief summary of his experience at the CJJ Conference. Mr. Tate explained that the conference talked about community partnership and building community power. He shared the “Five Ps” of the conference; Philosophy, Plays, Planning, Procurement, and Programming.
- f. **Subgrantee Progress:** Will discuss at the August meeting.
- g. **Chair Comments/Action Items:** Will discuss at the August meeting.

IV. New Business

a. State Plan Updates: Development group

i. Funding priorities: Will discuss at the August meeting.

- 1. System Improvement Committee Chair, Amanda Whittle, agreed that the System Improvement Committee would act as the State Plan update development group.

V. Adjourn: With no further discussion, meeting adjourned.