

# SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 29, 2023 at 10:00 am**  
*Graduate Hotel*  
*1619 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201*

**Members Present:** Chairman John Holler, Judge David Guyton, Director Eden Hendrick, Director Amanda Whittle, Kathryn Moorehead, Rev. Robert Reid, Sarah Goldsby, Dionne Carroll, Jerry Allred, Oscar Douglas, Delores Robinson, Blake Taylor

**Staff Members Present:** Jerode Oliver, Brittany Woods

**Guests:** Louise Johnson, Chelsea Newton, Mark Tidsworth

- I. Welcome by the Chair:** Chairman John Holler welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order. Chairman Holler read a quote from the book *The Wounded Healer* by Henri Nouwen.
- II. Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Holler asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the August 18, 2023 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.
- III. Agency Updates**

- a. **OHSJP Update:** Mr. Jerode Oliver informed the Council that the PSCC approved the Title II Formula grant recommendations provided by the GJJAC. The 2023 award has not been received therefore some programs are pending funds. Mr. Oliver also informed the Council that SCDJJ did not accept their grant award for JDAI. The total amount for the programs funded is \$494,416.

Director Eden Hendrick explained that the JDAI grant is not an agency priority at this time and felt the funds could be better used elsewhere.

Ms. Brittany Woods explained that the state has been out of compliance with DSO core requirements for the last two reporting periods; the 2023 determinations should be received by the end of the year.

- b. **SCDJJ:** Director Eden Hendrick presented the update. Director Hendrick informed the Council that the agency hosted an event called Meet the Artist where the community came to interact with the artists that produce the items that are sold in the Store of Hope. Almost every facility is under a massive construction project, the facilities have been neglected and not meant for the population being served. Director Hendrick has allocated \$500,000 from the agency's carry forward funds to Project LEAP. DJJ has more children in STAP placement now than they have in the last two years. The agency is also experiencing an influx in

waiver hearings due to Raise the Age; the number of waiver hearings has gone up 857% since before and after Raise the Age was implemented. Director Hendrick informed the Council that the agency has started the Master Plan process to help consolidate their facilities to have more flexible space and plan for the future.

**c. Other Agency Updates:**

- i. Department of Children’s Advocacy:** Director Amanda Whittle presented the update. Director Whittle explained that the Department of Child Advocacy is responsible for receiving, referring, monitoring and investigating complaints regarding child serving agencies and using the complaints to ensure children receive adequate services. The agency has a staff of six employees in the investigations unit and they have seen an influx in critical investigations. The RFP for a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) was awarded in October and plans are underway for a design, build, operate and maintain of this new facility.
- ii. SC Human Trafficking Taskforce:** Ms. Kathryn Moorehead presented the update. The task force will be onboarding a new Research and Data Analyst. The task force is engaging with state agencies to obtain funding to provide specialized services to trafficking victims across the state.

**IV. Old Business:** None.

**V. New Business:** None.

**VI. Adjourn:** With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned.