

JJAG Minutes 1/21/2022

Members Present - Jill Ward (Chair), Ned Chester (Vice Chair), Todd Landry (OCFS), Jonathan Shapiro (DOE), Page Nichols (DOE), Gail Wasserman, Atlee Reilly, Bonnie Porta, Deb Baeder, Regina Phillips, Bishop Steve Coleman, Christopher Northrop, Judge Mary Kelly, Elizabeth Ward-Saxl, Tessa Mosher, Lt Patrick Hood (DPS)

Members Absent:, Tracey Horton, Kaitlyn Megathlin, Gifford Campbell, Sienna Dana, Marta Haydym, Taheim Brimage, Abier Ibrahim, Mike Freysinger

JJAG Staff Present- Linda Barry Potter (JJ Specialist and Compliance Monitor)

DOC Staff Present: Anwar Whiting (RED/DOC Credible Messenger Coordinator), Sonja Morse (Data and Research Coordinator), Heidi L. Strassberg-Bersani (Juvenile Division Support Specialist)

Public Attendees: Fenton Jones, Waupi Paul, Alice Preble, Betsy Boardman, Mary Lou Michael, Margot Fine, Tanya Pierson, Sarah Branch, LaMichael Gildersleeve, Luc Nya, Daniel Banks, Nick Kidwell, Lindsay Rosenthal, Maryam Mohammed-Miller, Lisa Pilnik, Clara McConnell, Marisa Harris and Alicia Rea.

Call to Order: 9:02am

Minutes: Approval of 12/17/2021 Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve by Bonnie Porta; 2nd Regina Phillips. **Adopted by unanimous vote.**

JJ Specialist Report (*Linda Barry Potter*):

Budget report: See attached spreadsheets. 2018 award scheduled to spent down on time; 2019 balance of \$67,000 will be allocated to cover compliance monitoring and the state advisory group allocation, as well as a few other smaller expenses; 2020 award has \$385k balance.

RFP Update: Maine Inside Out proposal was selected for our community-based crisis response grant. They will be working with Lewiston Middle School and other community partners.

Website: Domain name is secured; minimal annual cost to host the site.

Working continues on the policy manual; would love some assistance from any lawyers or folks with legal experience to help/review. Note: Governance Committee can review.

Please send suggestions for new members/open seats to Jill and Linda who will be compiling list/applications for the Governor's consideration.

Grantee Update: Fenton Jones and Waupi Paul from the Boys and Girls Club of Presque Isle - Micmac BGC gave an update about the good work they are doing. See the newsletter from October.

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Agency Presentations:

DHHS/OCFS (Todd Landry): See attached documents (one Word document and one PowerPoint) that recap work completed last year and planned for this year related to adolescent substance use disorder (SUD) that were also shared with the Children's Cabinet. Judge Kelly asked about the lack of available alternative placements for the youth she is seeing in court. Some discussion about challenges around the pandemic and workforce issues. Dr. Landry shared the 2021 CBHS Annual Report, which can be accessed here: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/2021%20CBHS%20Annual%20Report.pdf>.

DOE (Jonathan Shapiro):

DOE School Safety Center is asking the legislature to make them officially an office inside of the DOE through legislation this session (LD 1870). Bringing on a training coordinator with a PhD in Ed Design, Wendy Robichaud, who will be starting Jan 31. Currently interviewing for a Restorative Practices Coordinator. VISTA person on food insecurity and school violence, developing model program for schools on top of what the legislature has done. DOE, generally, remains busy with COVID response, consistently working with schools to help with guidance from CDC. Office of School and Student Supports, implementing training with school staff to help deal with stress, trauma, overwork that complements overall SEL program that already exist.

DPS (Lt Patrick Hood): No updates.

DOC: Submitted written update from new Assoc Commissioner Christine Thibeault (see attached report).

Judicial Branch: (Judge Mary Kelly): No major updates; trying to accommodate more court activities on Zoom.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee (Jill Ward): Website is almost complete; just transferring to permanent url and making other final updates. We will finalize committee chairs and membership at February's meeting (including a final regular committee meeting schedule). Regional Care Team report has been released and can be accessed here:

https://www.maine.gov/corrections/sites/maine.gov.corrections/files/inline-files/RCT_Report_WEB.pdf

RED/DMC Committee (Bishop Steve Coleman): Committee held its planning retreat on 1/20, facilitated by Erica King and Mara Sanchez. Looked at leadership, membership and review RED plan goals and objectives. Committee will hold a debrief and determine next steps, including next meeting times. RFP for JJAG internal RED training received 8 bids and Carter Development Group (JJAG training) and Mindbridge Center (Long Creek training) were awarded contracts.

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Governance Committee (Christine Thibeault): Revised by-laws are out to members for review. Please direct any feedback or question to Christine or Ned by Feb 11. We will vote on them at February's meeting.

Legislative Committee (Atlee Reilly & Elizabeth Ward Saxl): The materials from the October 1 Training on 2021 Changes to the Juvenile Code from the last legislative session were circulated to the group. Please use and share this resource. It will also be posted on the new website. MCJPAL and the JJ Clinic also updated its informational brochure on juvenile records which will be posted and distributed to DOC staff, JCCOs, defense attorneys, courts, Long Creek to help families and youth better understand what it means to have a juvenile record in Maine.

Systems Improvement Committee (Jill Ward): Swathi Sivasubramanian, Policy Analyst/Program Coordinator from the USM Cutler Institute who is supporting our Youth Network grant and gave a presentation to the group last month will be attending future JJAG meetings to support our youth engagement goals. The Young People's Caucus will be hosting an event with the Children's Cabinet at the Legislature on January 27, breakout groups on foster care, youth justice, racial equity for schools, workforce development, and climate justice. Flyer with registration information will be shared with the group.

Margot Fine with Maine Inside out gave an update on their successful proposal to support a non-law enforcement crisis response program in partnership with Lewiston Middle School and other community partners. The program will be arts/theater centered and they are working with Mindbridge to evaluate the program, develop a metric of belonging, and other community and systems-based data.

Presentation: *Lindsay Rosenthal, Lisa Pilnik, Maryam Mohammed-Miller from the VERA Institute on work to End Girls Incarceration in Maine*

See attached slide deck and related memo on housing/youth homelessness. Some discussion about providers and servicing justice involved youth. Elizabeth Ward Saxl noted that Maine's (statewide) Trafficking Provider Council is in the middle of a statewide assessment related to the service landscape related to CSEC and we should talk more about connecting these two pieces of work.

Next Meetings: Regular meetings are the 3rd Friday of the month. Next meeting is February 18, 2022 at 9AM via Zoom.

Adjourned: 11:00am