

JJAG Minutes 01/19/2024

Members Present: Jill Ward (Vice Chair), Atlee Reilly, Bishop Steven Coleman, Christine Thibeault (DOC), Megan Welter (DOE), Dean Bugaj (DHHS), Bonnie Porta, Morgan Hynd, Renee Bernard, Jonathan Shapiro, Kelly Rackler, Tanya Pierson, Tessa Mosher, Jay Philbrick, Chris Northrop, Regina Phillips, Abeir Ibrahim, Chris Bicknell, Megan Anderson

Members Absent: Ned Chester (Chair), La Michael Gildersleeve, Judge Sarah Churchill, Jacinda Goodwin, Samantha Fenderson (DOL), Brody Haverly-Johndro, Zubeyda Shute, Ladi Nzeyimana, Sierra Dana

JJAG Staff Present: Linda Barry Potter (JJ Specialist), Douglas Sanborn (Compliance Monitor), Anwar Whiting (RED/DOC Credible Messenger Coordinator), Heidi Strassberg-Bersani (Juvenile Division Support Specialist), Steve Labonte (RCA, Region 3), Julie Leavitt (JCCO).

Public Attendees (via zoom): Ana Hicks, Betsy Boardman, Alice Preble, Doran Wright, Anna Schmidt, Melissa Martin (replacement nominee), Sarah Branch.

Call to Order: 9:05am (via zoom and in person at Williams Temple, Church of God in Christ, 274 Terrace Avenue, Portland. Underlined names attended in-person).

Welcome & Introductions (Jill Ward)

December Meeting Minutes (Jill Ward): Motion to approve as corrected by Renee Bernard; Tanya Pierson seconded. **Adopted 17-0 with 1 Abstention**

JJ Specialist Report (Linda Barry Potter):

Budget & Grants Update – Performance Measures for all contracts made in FY23 (10/01/2022 – 09/30/2023) were submitted into Just Grants and all have been accepted by OJJDP. Contracts with Carter Development Group (CDG), Smooth Feather, and Old Orchard Beach PD (JCRB) are completed. Mindbridge Phase II registration for R/ED work with DOC is open at this time.

The Systems Improvement/R/ED Committees are close to releasing the RFA for Marginalized Communities including BIPOC, LGBTQI/GNC, Tribal, Refugee, Immigrant and Disabled Youth. Evaluation Committee is needed up to 6 people can serve, looking for a financial expert, subject matter expert, and business expert to serve on the Evaluation Committee. Volunteers must be known before RFA can be published. Time commitment includes a 20-30 minute prep meeting and a day of reviewing and scoring applications. Please let Linda know if you are interested.

Compliance Monitoring Update – Doug Sanborn introduced himself, he has worked the last 6 years at Long Creek Youth Development Center the last 5 working in the Control Room. He is learning the role and is getting connected with the resources at OJJDP. He is working on the monitoring universe during January and looks forward to visits when the weather is nicer.

Save the Date: CJJ Conference - [CJJ's 40th Anniversary: Engaging Youth to Turn Passion into Policy](#) will be May 29-June 1 in Washington DC at the Grand Hyatt in Washington DC. Registration is \$370 before 1/31/2024 after that it goes up to \$48002/01/2024 and \$580 04/15/2024, respectively. As the JJAG has grown in size it is necessary to get a head count to determine how many members can go.

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Agency Updates:

Agency representatives were asked to present on major budget items and initiatives for the coming year(s) to help inform JJAG's 3-year planning process. DHHS presented in November and DOC and DOL presented in December. These presentations are on the JJAG website with the minutes for that meeting.

DOE (Megan Welter): Presented on Youth-Centered Initiatives at DOE with JJAG Implications. See attached slide deck.

Children's Cabinet (Ana Hicks): Presentation on the work done by the Children's Cabinet focused on older youth and connections between state agencies. Working groups to address issues in between Cabinet meetings support on-going conversation and collaboration. See slide deck for full presentation.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee (Ned Chester & Jill Ward): Board will continue to meet on the 3rd Friday of the month from 9-11am going forward. Later in the year the Youth Council will provide other meeting time options to help improve their attendance and engagement.

R/ED Committee (Regina Phillips & Chris Northrop): Dr. Carter met with the Committee in January to talk about recommendations for the next 3-year plan. Interest in continuing to support community-based organizations and improving first contact for youth with police to study. The Committee has requested TTA from OJJDP for this. Also interest in an updated data report on R/ED in Maine; it was noted the last one was nearly 10 years ago.

Systems Improvement Committee (Jill Ward & Luc Nya): Working with R/ED to release an RFA for community-based organizations working with marginalized communities, which should be posted in early February. Next topic area(s) for a possible RFA include supporting restorative justice work and/or issues around youth substance use and mental health. The committee meeting date has moved to the 4th Wednesday of the month and the next meeting is 1/24/2024 at 4pm.

3-Year Plan Writing Group: Ned Chester, Jill Ward, Morgan Hynd, Bonnie Porta, Samantha Fenderson, Chris Northrop, and Renee Bernard are on the smaller writing group that will work closely with Dr. Carter and Linda between meetings to frame up and draft the next 3-year plan. The plan will need to be ready to submit to OJJDP in the spring. The group will meet every other Tuesday from 7:30-9am starting 1/30/24. The full Board will be able to contribute during the monthly sessions scheduled to run after the regular Board meetings in February, March, and April, generally from 11:30am until 2:30pm.

Governance Committee (Ned Chester & Bonnie Porta): Focus is on recruiting system impacted youth or family member(s); possible candidate from Long Creek being looked into by DOC.

Youth Council (Jay Philbrick): Trying to organize a Long Creek Visit. Christine noted that visiting on a weekend will require special staffing, so please plan accordingly to allow time to staff properly. Also working to set meeting time with Dr Carter to have the Council contribute to the 3-year plan.

Legislative Committee (Atlee Reilly): No update. There was some discussion that Legislators seemed unaware of the CCLP system assessment that had been distributed at the beginning of the session last year. Clear more education is needed around the assessment and related recommendations.

Next meeting is February 16 at 9am via zoom.

Adjourned 11:20am.