

February 2017 OYS Steering Committee Noteworthy Happenings

JDAI February 2017 Committee Updates

Alternatives to Detention Committee Update January 2017

- ATD co-chairs and Shelly are meeting with Anne Hobbs about the tracking of Alternatives to Detention to ensure consistency with definitions and etc.
- ATD Committee had a good discussion about this committee using some time to create a service provider list of some sort so stakeholders are aware of all of the different programs and services in the community that are available to youth and families.
- The Committee will continue to monitor success of ATD's as defined by JDAI (no new law violations and no failure to appear while placed in the Alternative program), but will also dig deeper into other reasons for discharge including technical violations and non-compliance with program rules.
- ATD Committee will be working with the Case Processing Committee on looking at different pieces of data and will also be working on developing a training for stakeholders.

DMC Committee Updates

Submitted by: Mark LeFlore, Co-Chair

LaVon Stennis-Williams, Co-Chair

Community Forum: The Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee (DMC) has been busy working to elevate the DMC issue within our juvenile justice system and the community. Our efforts have been well received and supported by Commissioners, systems agents, and the community.

On January 28, 2017, the JDAI/OYS DMC Committee held the first of two community forums to invite community members to come learn about DMC and the opportunity to provide solution-based input to help eliminate the overrepresentation of youth of color in our juvenile justice system. In addition to presentations by the JDAI/OYS Committee, Commissioners Borgeson, Rodgers, and Judge Daniels also delivered remarks. Special presentations were also provided by Boys Town regarding their helpline as a parent resource, a Table Talk on Implicit Bias training was provided by Ajamal Byndon and Karen Abrams.

The second community forum will be held in April in South Omaha. The presentation is being translated to accommodate Spanish speaking participants and the committee will work closely with the Latino community to host a forum that meets their needs. At the conclusion of this second community forum, the Committee will evaluate all of the input gathered and propose next steps in our efforts move the dial on ending DMC.

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Membership: At the January DMC Committee meeting, members also discussed the need to identify core DMC Committee membership as there are some individuals who have not attended in over a year who are still members. Rather than purging the roster to remove individuals, by acclamation the committee decided to send out a notification inviting individuals to choose whether they wish to remain a part of the regular DMC Committee membership roster, or become Members-at-Large which allows them to continue to receive notice of meetings, information and invites, but they will not be counted toward the quorum or having voting privileges. Responses are due back to the Co-Chairs by February 15, 2017. If a response is not received and the individual has not been currently attending, the individuals will be moved to the At-Large status. Membership status can change back based on reengagement with the committee.

Solution Based Input to End DMC: The Committee is being asked to submit at least one strategy, comment, or idea to help end DMC or which will contribute to solution-based discussions and the committee would like to extend this offer to the Collaborative as well. If you have a suggestion please forward to Mark LeFlore.

Case Processing:

Motions to Revoke/Violations of Probation: Small group of Ray Curtis, Judge Crnkovich, Sarah Schaerrer, Ann Holtz, Matt Kahler, Joy Suder, and Shelly Hug will meet in February to begin standardization of practices. Current legislation regarding sanctions will impact this process slightly.

Evaluations: waiting for data from state probation regarding timely fulfillment of court orders, which providers are being used, and effects of evaluations (recommendations for placement/therapeutic recommendations). Included in analysis will be determining if we “over-rely” on evaluations. Waiting for guidance from AECF technical assistance group as to how to measure this.

System Mapping: working with DMC; plan to have letters out by end of February for updates to system mapping/practices of stakeholder offices to determine where delays might be found and then implement changes to expedite delays.

Successful outcomes with ATDs: working with DMC and ATD to identify/collect the right data to gauge successful outcomes, especially for youth of color.

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Data: This committee will be meeting for the first time this year next week. The group plans to work towards creating a data memo specific to DMC and youth who have been presented to detention. The group would also plan to identify data points that can be used to see movement in the system as it occurs this year.

OYS NOTEWORTHY ACHIEVEMENTS & UPDATES 1/19/17 -2/10/17

FAMILIES WORK GROUP – Did not meet during the month of January due to severe winter weather. Work group is preparing for first evening meeting of the Families work group, scheduled for Tuesday, March 21st at the Omaha Home for Boys. Video subcommittee continues to work with students from UNL to develop short vignettes describing JJS system contact points. Intended users are youth/families first experiencing these contact points.

PREVENTION WORK GROUP – Work group added Strategy 4 to their work plan: *Expand and enhance prevention services to at-risk communities in Douglas County*. This strategy includes 5 related action steps (briefly summarized here) – ID target zip codes; learn about existing prevention efforts in target locations; ID services in target area in need of funding for expansion; assess the extent to which services in target area are EBP, best practice, research-informed, trauma-informed or follow a model w/fidelity; assess program capacity and feasibility for expansion. Work group discussed increasing their own community involvement in existing projects as well as collaborating to promote the projects of other organizations. Work group discussed promoting the existing culturally competent organizations within communities. Work group also discussed the shortage of Hispanic probation officers, case workers, and services. The work group discussed developing a plan for supporting existing organizations, particularly those located within the communities with higher concentrations of monolingual, non-English speakers. Next step for this group was to compile list of volunteer opportunities in ID zip codes, existing prevention efforts, and specific community groups to engage.

POLICY WORK GROUP – This work group is looking for a Co-chair. An update on the newly formed Run Away task force was provided. The bulk of the meeting was spent in discussion with Juliette (Voices for Children) on Juvenile Justice Legislation currently under consideration. Bills discussed were: LB 428, LB 595, LB 10, LB 8, LB 11, LB 197, LB 298, and LB 556. The state policy agenda for VFC, summarizing these bills can be found here:

<http://voicesforchildren.com/policy/state-policy-agenda-2017/>

SCHOOL BASED ARREST TASK FORCE - This task force discussed school administration training regarding the SRO role and the school-justice partnership. Further training has been identified as a necessary element to ensure SROs are not pulled into issues that are not the responsibility of SROs. Team consensus is they would like to see some type of school administration training

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offered – see as a void in best practice implementation of the SRO program. The task force discussed proposed LB 595 – unanimously, this group is not in support of this legislation. The task force discussed school push out as it relates to race, gender, ethnicity, LGBTQ, language & literacy – consensus of the group was that more work could be done to understand local impacts & correlations. Next steps include contacting professionals working with refugee populations locally.

SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM TASK FORCE – Task force was provided an update on the evaluation co- led by UNO STEPS and the United Way. The group reviewed the templet for an attendance related brochure and provided feedback in preparation for publication in the Omaha Metro. The task force began strategizing around planning for attendance awareness month (September).

SCHOOL REENTRY TASK FORCE – Task force reviewed several ESSA handouts provided by members from the NE Department of Education. Identified inconsistencies within guidance section related to homelessness and doubling up which would impact coding – contacting NE Homeless Coordinator to resolve issue. Task force will utilize the Foster Care Liaison directory to update contact list on school welcome letter. Discussed systems for adjusting to new requirements and complications. Task force discussed student drop outs and models for reentry.

Up Coming Events:

Thursday, March 23, 2017 – Implicit Bias workshop and breakout sessions. Flyer attached.

Saturday, April 29, 2017 – DMC Community Conversation. South High School. Stay tuned for more details!!