

UTAH JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

OCTOBER, 2017 MEETING SUMMARY

On October 16, 2017 the Utah Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) convened for the sixth time in Salt Lake City. The meeting was led by Representative Lowry Snow, chair of the JJOC. The purpose of the meeting was to provide Committee Working Group updates; share overall feedback received at statewide “roadshows”; review a draft memo for School Resource Officers (SROs); and, review the draft annual report.

Committee Working Group Updates

Education Working Group

Patty Norman, chair of the Education Working Group, provided an update to the Committee. Members of the education working group, and the larger educator community, expressed an interest in receiving ‘model policies’ from various school districts across the state on how best to address behaviors that cannot be referred to court. The working group is also interested in exploring risk assessment tools that are used by school districts, to screen youth and inform preventative measures. Davis County has some innovative approaches that will be shared with members at the next meeting.

The next Education working group meeting was scheduled and held on October 17, 2017.

Communication Working Group & Roadshow Presentations

The communications working group has not had a meeting since August due to the roadshows taking place across the state all summer and into the fall. The working group plans to meet at the end of October and in the meantime are seeking input on revisions to the HB 239 website to make it as user-friendly as possible.

Data Working Group

The Data Working Group met on October 16, 2017 to review the summary of key performance measures related to HB 239. Ben Peterson, Chair of the group, reported that in collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Courts, Juvenile Justice Services and the Department of Child and Family Services, CCJJ compiled the updated key performance measures document. These measures will be regularly reviewed by the Data Working Group and updates will be routinely provided to the JJOC as well. Next year it is anticipated that these data will be included in the annual report. The JJOC collectively approved of the performance measures and the agencies will begin to share data by the end of October 2017 and quarterly thereafter.

The next Data Working Group meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2017.

System Mapping Working Group

No additional updates at this time as the group has not met since the last JJOC meeting.

The next System Mapping working group meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2017.

Nonjudicial Adjustment Sliding Fee Scale Ad-Hoc Committee

Dawn Marie Rubio, Chair of the ad-hoc committee, shared that committee members were being polled for a meeting date. In preparation for the upcoming meeting, the AOC is compiling research on the information the court gathered regarding sliding scales.

Roadshows Report

Cuong Nguyen from CCJJ provided a brief presentation summarizing the roadshows to date. There have been a total of 13 roadshows with nearly 420 attendees across all eight judicial

districts. Representative Lowry Snow and Ron Gordon from CCJJ attended many roadshows and all roadshows had representation from the Utah Juvenile Defender Attorney's office, AOC, JJS, USBE and law enforcement. Audience members at the roadshows included law enforcement, school personnel and members of the community. Generally, support was expressed for the policy changes and requests were made for additional information on access to additional community-based programs and services. The feedback provided at the roadshows has been useful to inform the efforts of the various Committee working groups including the production of frequently asked questions documents, the School Offense Referral Guide, a memo for prosecutors and a memo for SROs.

An additional roadshow is scheduled with the Tribal Leaders Council on November 17, 2017.

School Resource Officer Memo

The JJOC reviewed a draft memo which describes what has and has not changed as a result of HB 239 regarding the role of School Resource Officers (SROs)/law enforcement related to offenses occurring on school property. Suggestions were made by members for technical clarifications to ensure the information is as clear as possible. An approved version of the memo was finalized and posted online on October 30, 2017.

Annual Report

Meeting attendees reviewed a draft of the annual report. Tessa Upin from the Crime and Justice Institute, technical assistance provider, explained the structure of the report and goal to summarize of all activities related to the implementation of HB 239 by the JJOC, the Committee working groups and individual agencies including the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, the Department of Human Services (including Juvenile Justice Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health and Division of Child and Family Services), Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Utah State Board of Education. The final version of the report will include numerous appendix with all JJOC meeting notes and materials produced by the JJOC and various working

groups.

The report will be finalized in November 2017.

Roundtable Discussion

At the conclusion of the meeting, Representative Snow led a discussion with all members to hear general feedback on H.B. 239 implementation efforts or any other juvenile justice related topics. Highlights from the discussion included:

- October is Youth Justice Awareness Month (YJAM) and there are events taking place including a screening of the documentary "13th" and award ceremony with the theme Pipeline to Success: Celebrating Partnerships in Reform. The award ceremony will be held on Oct. 26, 2017 at the State Capitol in recognition of Representative Lowry Snow and Senator Todd Weiler as Youth Advocate of the Year for their legislative efforts to improve the juvenile justice system in Utah. Everyone is invited.
- Youth Courts around the state continue to have varying numbers of referrals
- Granite school district currently has five pilot sites (one high school and four junior high schools) working with JJS to implement the ADAPT program in schools
- There is a distinction between youth who are enrolled in Medicaid and those that are eligible for Medicaid as it relates to the completion of assessments by the Courts or JJS
- The Ute Tribe built a large juvenile detention center that is currently unoccupied; for anyone interested a tour of the facility is available
- It is beneficial for youth to know that everyone at the table for JJOC is to address issues that impact the lives of youth in the juvenile justice system

Next Steps

The next JJOC meeting will take place on November 20, 2017 at 1 p.m. at the Juvenile Justice Services Facility in Springville Utah, 205

West 900 North, Springville, Utah 84663. The Committee working groups will continue meeting and provide updates on their activities at the next JJOC meeting.