

## Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2021, 8-9:30 am

Location: Virtual Meeting in Microsoft Teams

Meeting Called By Jill Hermanutz

Facilitator

Catherine Johnson

### Committee Members/Representatives Present

Members Present: Catherine Johnson, Steve Fletcher, Michael Freeman, Irene Fernando, David Hutchinson, Mark Thompson, Kassius Benson, Phillipe Cunningham, Tamara Garcia, Sara Lindahl-Pfieffer, Rolf Sponheim, Mike Risvold, Tim Busse, Eric Werner, Julie Maas-Kusske

Staff: Jill Hermanutz; Diana Chaman-Salas

Notes: Cherie Nelson

## Agenda Topics

### **10 minutes | Introduction, announcements & approval of meeting minutes**

*Lead: Chair Catherine Johnson*

- Introductions & welcome new members

Catherine Johnson announced that this was Chief Risvold's last meeting as a member of CJCC due to his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his many years of service. She welcomed Chief Jason Nelson, Medina Police Chief, who was joining CJCC to replace Chief Risvold. She also welcomed Bloomington Mayor Tim Busse, who had been appointed by the Hennepin County Board as the new representative to CJCC for a large suburban city.

- Approval of January 2021 meeting minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the January 2021 meeting was made and seconded. With no objections noted, the minutes were approved.

- Check CJCC website for agendas and minutes

### **20 minutes | Expungement for SEY & launch of Youth Justice Council**

*Leads: Judge Mark Kappelhoff, Juvenile Court & Jerald Moore, Division Manager Juvenile Probation*

Judge Kappelhoff and Jerald Moore provided a presentation on the Youth Justice Council, an initiative launched in January, and noted the following:

- This was designed to address issues in Juvenile Court and followed a top to bottom review of Probation and Juvenile Court conducted by RFK. The mission statement and core principles were outlined.
- Great strides had already been made in Juvenile Court over the last 15 years, but it was felt there was an opportunity to move to the next level through a collaborative effort that included stakeholders and community members to produce positive outcomes for the youth, families and community we all serve.

- The Annie E. Casey Foundation had been brought in and Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) had been implemented and resulted in significant improvements. The average number of kids at the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) at that time was 100, while capacity was only 85 and kids were sleeping on floors and cots. Out-of-home placement costs were \$31 million including a significant number of out-of-state placements. Looking at racial disparity, youth of color were staying in detention longer for the same or similar offenses. JDAI reduced reliance on secure confinement, reduced racial and ethnic disparities and redirected kids to community-based services. Results also saw an 80% decrease in youth admitted to the JDC and a 65% decrease in JDC to an average population of 33. Cost savings were redirected to reform efforts.
- The challenge remains disparities with a definite opportunity to improve. More community members were invited to the table to really challenge us in addressing race and equity in the system, which is where the Youth Council comes in. Three meetings have been held so far in 2021 with over 160 participants at the first meeting. The structure of the council and various subcommittees was reviewed.
- Expungements for juveniles came out as a topic of interest from the first meeting. There was a request to develop a more proactive process for youth who have completed probation, providing information regarding the expungement process and FAQs. It was noted that Chief Judge Barnette was working on an automatic expungement process for certain youth.
- The website was shared: <https://www.hennepin.us/residents/public-safety/youth-justice-council>.

Commissioner Fernando expressed gratitude for this initiative, noting that this comes down to a question of investment which she would happily support in her position to achieve positive outcomes for our youth and community vibrancy. She felt the county could really reap rewards in the future from this investment. Sheriff Hutchinson said that this was a great presentation and if we can help young people get on the right track as they become adults, we will see the benefit of reduction in violent crime. He offered assistance from the Sheriff's Office for outreach efforts.

### **30 minutes | No Wrong Door Presentation**

*Leads: Diana Chaman-Salas, No Wrong Door Manager*

Diana Chaman-Salas provided an update on the No Wrong Door Program, noting the mission was to fight against the sexual exploitation of youth. She indicated the following:

- There has been an increase in the number of cases and the number of youths served by the county during the pandemic; youth are often forced to stay at home with their abusers while facing closure of schools.
- The definition of sexual exploitation was outlined: use of violence, coercion, fraud, or manipulation to cause a minor to engage in commercial sex act.
- Statistics referenced:
  - The vast majority of victims are U.S. citizens.
  - The average age of entry is between 12-14 years.
  - Runaways will be approached by a pimp or trafficker within 36-48 hours of being on the run.
  - Life expectancy after entering sexual exploitation is 7 years.

- Results from the 2019 MN Student Survey noted the following:
  - 5,000 students reported that they had traded sex for money, food, drugs, alcohol, or a place to stay.
  - The majority were people of color and 12% had been in a juvenile correctional facility.
- Minnesota's Safe Harbor Law passed in 2011 called for youth under the age of 18 who engage in sexual exploitation activities are considered victims and not criminals. In 2016, eligibility for services was expanded to age 24.
- The No Wrong Door Response Model includes six key components: Prevention, Identification, Service Delivery, Training & Education, Emergency Shelter, and Law Enforcement & Prosecution.
- 2020 achievements included 553 allegations of sex trafficking and exploitation reported and 538 case management work groups open over the past three years. The program has over 45 partnerships. Online training was implemented.
- 2020 service delivery included 400+ youths directly served, COVID19 emergency shelter response for 450 youth with service delivery increasing by 60%.
- New tools included a vulnerability assessment tool which helps make decisions and provide the right services at the right time.
- A one-stop resource hub was developed providing information including where agencies are located and what services are provided.
- 2021 goals include expanding service delivery, continuing Logic Framework implementation and increasing education and awareness, and continuing to empower youth and raise the voices of those with lived experiences.
- New projects were described including an assessment of areas with high risk factors and monitoring SEY-related outcomes across the system.

Sheriff Hutchinson noted the seriousness of sexual exploitation of youth; this impacts exploited youth for the rest of their lives and the perpetrators need to be held accountable. He applauded the effort and asked if there was interest in sharing this presentation statewide with the MN Sheriff's Association or even nationally.

### **30 minutes | CJCC Strategic Plan Final Results**

*Leads: Catherine Johnson, CJCC Chair & Diana Chaman-Salas, CJCC Strategy & Community Engagement*

Diana Chaman-Salas provided an update on the final results for the CJCC Strategic Plan, reporting on efforts of the Steering Committee and the 7-month planning process. She reviewed the handout, pointing out the addition of long-term goals. She concluded by outlining planned next steps, mentioning discussion had focused on what could be done to make sure goals would be implemented. Plans include developing a timeline and performance measures. Catherine Johnson noted the challenge to members of having disparate roles in the system and the need to figure out ways to collectively proceed on those goals fundamentally agreed upon; this provided an exciting opportunity to take spaces where do agree and push forward and do constructive things to improve our system.

Chief Risvold suggested adding behavioral health as a voting member to CJCC; Jill Hermanutz noted adding a voting member would require a unanimous vote of CJCC. She also noted the upcoming Hennepin County Board Briefing on April 15 that was related to criminal justice behavioral health. Mark Thompson said he anticipated more resources and efforts going into behavioral health with the county was being asked to provide more services to police departments. He recommended going on a ride along with law enforcement; after doing so he realized the limited tools available to police for situations dealing with mental illness or chemical dependency and felt there was a need for additional tools / resources. Sheriff Hutchinson commented that law enforcement needs assistance to serve people suffering from mental health trauma; they cannot do everything. He added this was part of police reform, modernizing how police do business and use technology.

Catherine Johnson concluded by asking that agenda items for future meetings should be sent to Jill Hermanutz and noting that auto theft / carjacking had been added to the next meeting agenda at the request of Chief Werner. Mark Thompson suggested that downtown outreach / services also be added to the next agenda.

Time 9:29 | Agenda topic *Adjournment*

- Next CJCC Meeting is May 27, 2021

Relevant Links or Resources

[Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Website](#)