



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Fall Creek Falls
Thursday, October 29, 2015
2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present

Phil Acord, Chair
Brenda Davis
Genesis Hardin
Jennie Harlan
Glenda Terry

Members Absent

Ethan Flynn
Bill Haynes
Rob Mortensen
Christy Sigler
Amy Jones

Staff Present

Craig Hargrow
Linda O'Neal
Steve Petty
Vicki Taylor
Nancy Townsend
Zanira Whitfield

I. Welcome and Introductions – Phil Acord
Acord called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m., and welcomed all present and thanked them for their attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes (ACTION)

IT WAS MOVED (HARLAN) AND SECONDED (DAVIS) TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2015 JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

III. Program Monitoring Report – Rodger Jowers

Jowers reported state statutes require grants to be reviewed at least once every three years. There were no substantial issues noted and minor fiscal findings. Staff will work with some of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) grantees to maintain accurate documentation of time sheets.

Jowers reported the Program Monitoring Guide will be edited and the completed Program

Monitoring Plan for next fiscal year has been submitted.

Jowers also reported the Comptroller's Office gets a copy of all Program Monitoring Reviews.

IV. Federal Formula Grant Three-Year Plan Update – Juvenile Justice Staff

Hargrow reported the Three-Year Plan was submitted in a timely manner to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The award letter was received in the amount of \$722,756. Taylor and Whitfield are preparing Request for Proposals to be distributed statewide in November. Applications for new grantees will be approved at the February Commission meeting.

V. Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Update – Vicki Taylor

Taylor reported a request was submitted and approved to extend the EUDL project period from June 30, 2015 to December 30, 2015. A budget modification request was submitted in September, changing the grant focus from compliance checks to developing a responsible beverage server training curriculum and purchasing materials. OJJDP requested a budget breakdown and narrative which was submitted. Taylor has been diligent in following up with our OJJDP Program Manager for a response to the budget modification request.

Acord asked what happens to funding not allocated to grantees. O'Neal explained funding not allocated would be returned to OJJDP.

VI. Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) Violations – Zanira Whitfield

Referring to the handout that was distributed, Whitfield discussed the DSO Violations Report. The total number of DSO violations from January 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015, was 35 with zero jail removal violations and zero jail separation violations.

VII. DMC Task Force Update – Craig Hargrow

Hargrow reported pursuant to a request for technical assistance made to OJJDP, representatives from the Burns Institute provided training on Successful Strategies to Reduce Racial/Ethnic Disparities on September 1, 2015. The training topics were Fundamentals of Success, Community Engagement and Using Data to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities. The Burns Institute representatives also coached the participants through a hypothetical problem solving exercise. Acord was impressed with the turnout for the meeting, the participant's contributions and the activities presented by the Burns Institute.

Hargrow has been diligently working with the DMC Task Forces. He participated in an organizational meeting for the Hamilton County DMC Task Force on September 28, 2015, where he provided an overview of the nine points of contact in the juvenile justice system. The Hamilton County DMC Task Force developed a plan to review the federal

definitions of the nine points of contact to determine whether the task force can produce the data needed to evaluate each point of contact.

Acord attended the organizational meeting and mentioned one issue was getting each of the 13 municipalities in Hamilton County, who all have police forces, to report data.

Other stakeholders in attendance were representatives from the Chattanooga Police Department, Juvenile Court Judge, Juvenile Court Director, Court Information Technology Director and a representative from the My Brother's Keeper initiative.

Hargrow continues to work with the Shelby, Madison, Montgomery and Davidson County DMC task forces by providing technical assistance.

VIII. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A) Update – Craig Hargrow

Hargrow reported that on April 30, 2015, Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) introduced S. 1169, a bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A). The bill would strengthen the JJDP A's core protections for youth involved in the juvenile justice system, eliminate use of the Valid Court Order (VCO) exception, provide further assurances that children who are facing charges are not housed with adult inmates, and require communities to address racial and ethnic disparities within their systems. The bill was voted out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 23, 2015 and will go to the Senate floor for a full vote.

H.R. 2728, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2015, was introduced in the House of Representatives on June 11, 2015 by Representative Bobby Scott (D-VA).

IX. Other Business

Acord asked Petty how the Youth Transitions Advisory Council (YTAC) relates to juvenile justice. Petty explained that YTAC is an extension of the foster care service program and juvenile justice youth are eligible, although juvenile justice youth are not eligible if they are placed in a Youth Development Center (YDC) at the time they turn 18 years of age.

Acord encouraged Commission members to read the YTAC Annual Report.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes Approved by:

Vicki Taylor, Juvenile Justice Specialist

Phil Acord, Chair