

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
Juvenile Services Committee (JSC) and
Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ)**

October 26, 2023
1:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Douglas County Justice Center
1717 Harney St
Omaha, NE 68102

1. Call to Order

JSC Co-Chair Nick Juliano called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM, welcomed everyone and asked Adam Anderson to call roll.

2. Roll Call

Juvenile Services Committee

Committee Members Present (12)

Nicole Brundo
Jennifer Carter
Amy Hoffman
LaDonna Jones-Dunlap
Nick Juliano

Proxy for Mark LaBouchardiere,
John Baker
Dennis Marks
Michelle Nunemaker
Sara Quiroz

Vicky Smith
Deb VanDyke-Ries
Dr. Richard Wiener

Committee Members Absent (5)

Marisa Hattab
Judge Denise Kracl

Patrick Sailors
Tammy Sassaman

Bobbi Taylor

Committee Resource Members Present (1)

Julie Smith

Committee Resource Members Absent (2)

Senator Carol Blood
Bethany Nelson

A quorum was established for the Juvenile Services Committee

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Coalition Members Present (12)

Colleen Barnes
Proxy for Neleigh Boyer, John Baker
Patrick Connell
Breanna Flaherty

Misty Flowers
Monika Gross
Brian Halstead
Amy Hoffman

Elaine Menzel
Daniel Schleusener
Amanda Speichert
Tami Steensma

Coalition Members Absent (7)

Roma Amundson
Stanford Bradley
Janteice Holston

Denise Manthei
Jill Schubauer
Steve Solorio

Bobbi Taylor

Coalition Ex-Officio Members Present (1)

Kari Rumbaugh

Coalition Ex-Officio Members Absent (2)

Judge Chad Brown

Judge Joel Jay

A quorum was not established for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice.

Guests in Attendance (4):

Amanda Adams

Adam Anderson

Tami Soper

Bryan Tuma

Erin Wasserberger

Sara Quiroz

Jessi Svoboda

a. Notice of Publication

Administrative Programs Officer for the Nebraska Children’s Commission, Adam Anderson, indicated that the notice of publication for this meeting was posted on the Nebraska Children’s Commission and Nebraska Public Meetings Calendar websites in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

b. Announcement of the placement of Open Meeting Act information

A copy of the Open Meetings Act was available for public inspection at the sign-in table and on the Nebraska Children’s Commission website.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Amy Hoffman from the JSC and Brian Halstead from the NCJJ to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Carter from the JSC and Amanda Speichert from the NCJJ. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

Juvenile Services Committee

FOR (11):

Nicole Brundo

Jennifer Carter

Amy Hoffman

LaDonna Jones-Dunlap

Nick Juliano

Proxy for Mark LaBouchardiere,

John Baker

Dennis Marks

Michelle Nunemaker

Vicky Smith

Deb VanDyke-Ries

Dr. Richard Wiener

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (5):

Marisa Hattab

Judge Denis Kracl

Patrick Sailors

Tammy Sassaman

Bobbi Taylor

Dr. Richard Wiener

MOTION CARRIED for the Juvenile Services Committee

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

FOR (11):

Colleen Barnes

Proxy for Neleigh Boyer, John

Baker

Patrick Connell

Breanna Flaherty

Misty Flowers

Monika Gross

Brian Halstead

Amy Hoffman

Elaine Menzel

Daniel Schleusener

Amanda Speichert

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (7):

Roma Amundson
Stanford Bradley
Janteice Holston

Denise Manthei
Jill Schubauer
Steve Solorio

Bobbi Taylor

MOTION CARRIED for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

**Minutes do not follow the approved agenda*

4. Approval of NCJJ January 26, 2023 Minutes

A motion was made by Pat Connell from the NCJJ to approve the January 26, 2023 as presented. The motion was seconded by Daniel Schleusener from the NCJJ. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

FOR (10):

Colleen Barnes
Proxy for Neleigh Boyer, John
Baker
Patrick Connell

Breanna Flaherty
Misty Flowers
Monika Gross
Amy Hoffman

Elaine Menzel
Daniel Schleusener
Amanda Speichert

AGAINST (1):

Brian Halstead

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (7):

Roma Amundson
Stanford Bradley
Janteice Holston

Denise Manthei
Jill Schubauer
Steve Solorio

Bobbi Taylor

MOTION CARRIED for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

5. Approval of JSC July 27, 2023 Minutes

A motion was made by Jennifer Carter from the JSC to approve the July 27, 2023 as presented. The motion was seconded by Amy Hoffman from the JSC. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

Juvenile Services Committee

FOR (11):

Nicole Brundo
Jennifer Carter
Amy Hoffman
LaDonna Jones-Dunlap

Nick Juliano
Proxy for Mark LaBouchardiere,
John Baker
Dennis Marks

Michelle Nunemaker
Vicky Smith
Deb VanDyke-Ries
Dr. Richard Wiener

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (5):

Marisa Hattab
Judge Denis Kracl

Patrick Sailors
Tammy Sassaman

Bobbi Taylor
Dr. Richard Wiener

MOTION CARRIED for the Juvenile Services Committee

6. JSC and NCJJ Membership Update

Adam Anderson and Elaine Menzel shared information regarding current openings on the Committee and Coalition.

7. Elections for NCJJ Chair and Vice Chair

NCJJ Chair Elaine Menzel explained the voting process and listed the nominees. Members discussed the process.

A motion was made by Amanda Speichert from the NCJJ to cease nominations and elect Elaine Menzel as Chair and Pat Connell as Vice Chair for the NCJJ. The motion was seconded by Misty Flowers from the NCJJ. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

FOR (11):

Colleen Barnes	Breanna Flaherty	Amy Hoffman
Proxy for Neleigh Boyer, John Baker	Misty Flowers	Elaine Menzel
Patrick Connell	Monika Gross	Daniel Schleusener
	Brian Halstead	Amanda Speichert

AGAINST (1):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (7):

Roma Amundson	Denise Manthei	Bobbi Taylor
Stanford Bradley	Jill Schubauer	
Janteice Holston	Steve Solorio	

MOTION CARRIED for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

8. Nebraska Childrens Commission Strategic Priorities

Amanda Adams reviewed the Strategic Priorities from the Children’s Commission.

9. YRTC Update

Proxy for Mark LaBouchardiere, John Baker shared that several weeks ago, YRTC Hastings held a law enforcement appreciation day. He noted that youth made goodie bags for the officers. He shared that there was one held in Kearney, where the facility had a barbeque.

Baker noted a spike of youth coming to YRTC from the Omaha area. He noted that some kids have been identified as gang affiliated and this has made for tense situations amongst the youth. He noted that of the 86 youth committed to YRTC. 43% from Douglas County. Central 8%, Eastern 44%, Northern 15%, Southeast 22%, Western 9%..

Dan Schleusener shared that his department expressed thanks for the recent law enforcement appreciation days held at the YRTCs.

10. Probation Update

Kari Rumbaugh distributed the annual report from Probation. She shared that it is also available online at https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/sites/default/files/files/11854/Annual_Report_FY_2022_for_posting_on_website.pdf. Rumbaugh shared highlights from the report. She highlighted data from recent years. She noted that Probation population has recently risen, most likely after coming out of the pandemic. Rumbaugh also highlighted the incentive program and art contest.

Rumbaugh answered questions regarding out of home placements and probation revocations. Members discussed how probation modification orders affected this number.

11. Approval of the NCJJ Annual Report

NCJJ Chair Elaine Menzel noted that the report has been submitted to the Legislature, but not yet approved by the NCJJ. She noted the reason for the vote.

A motion was made by Brian Halstead from the NCJJ to approve the NCJJ annual report as presented. The motion was seconded by Breanna Flaherty from the NCJJ. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

FOR (11):

Colleen Barnes	Breanna Flaherty	Amy Hoffman
Proxy for Neleigh Boyer, John Baker	Misty Flowers	Elaine Menzel
Patrick Connell	Monika Gross	Daniel Schleusener
	Brian Halstead	Amanda Speichert

AGAINST (1):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (7):

Roma Amundson	Denise Manthei	Bobbi Taylor
Stanford Bradley	Jill Schubauer	
Janteice Holston	Steve Solorio	

MOTION CARRIED for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice

12. JSC Workgroup Updates

a. Access to Services

Julie Smith shared information regarding the recent meetings. She shared that the current focus is mapping the intersections of partners between, CFS, Probation, and Care Coordinators. She added that a current point of interest is evaluations.

b. Racial & Ethnic Disparities

Tami Soper shared information regarding the recent work of the workgroup. Amanda Adams noted that the workgroup has begun to look at funding for community based programs. Soper added that the workgroup is focusing on how to grow and provide technical assistance to smaller organizations that might need access to evidence-based evaluations and data. Soper hopes that the workgroup will bring together community partners in early 2024. Amanda Adams asked for assistance reaching out to community partners.

c. Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment

Nick Juliano shared a brief history regarding the workgroup and the process moving forward with a new plan and new name. Deb VanDyke-Ries noted that the intent is to expand the focus of the workgroup to look at the entire continuum of care, with the YRTC being the highest level. Members discussed how additional access to lower level placements may be beneficial. Julie Smith noted enough difference between this and the Access to Services workgroup. Through regular check-ins, the groups will work together. Jennifer Carter discussed the YRTC 5-year plan.

A motion was made by LaDonna Jone-Dunlap from the JSC to restart the YRTC Workgroup under the name Youth Justice Continuum of Care Workgroup. The motion was seconded by Vicky Smith from the JSC. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

Juvenile Services Committee

FOR (11):

Nicole Brundo	Nick Juliano	Michelle Nunemaker
Jennifer Carter	Proxy for Mark LaBouchardiere,	Vicky Smith
Amy Hoffman	John Baker	Deb VanDyke-Ries
LaDonna Jones-Dunlap	Dennis Marks	Dr. Richard Wiener

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (5):

Marisa Hattab

Judge Denis Kracl

Patrick Sailors

Tammy Sassaman

Bobbi Taylor

Dr. Richard Wiener

MOTION CARRIED for the Juvenile Services Committee

13. NCJJ Subcommittee Updates

a. Executive Subcommittee

NCJJ Chair Menzel shared that currently the Coalition is awaiting information from the Federal Government. Amy Hoffman noted that an application has been made and will likely need changes and workload in the future. Menzel will also be sending invites to the workgroups in the future.

b. Community Planning Advisory Subcommittee

Erin Wasserburger noted that the group will start again in January, noting that there was nothing on the agenda. Wasserburger noted that the group will be working on a process manual.

c. Juvenile Diversion Subcommittee

Amy Hoffman noted that there has been approximately 62 people trained in the NSAT. She noted no other updates.

d. Grant Review Subcommittee

Erin Wasserburger noted that the group has looked at juvenile service grants and plans moving forward. She noted that the CBA application has opened up recently and that they close December 20. Previous communities who have not applied recently have been reached.

e. Young Adult Subcommittee

Elaine Menzel shared that there are attempts to reinvigorate this subcommittee.

14. Community Based Aid Presentation

Devon Williams from Reconnect Inc. shared information regarding their program and Family Matters. She noted the program identified oppositional defiance disorder as a common thread among youth. She shared that Reconnect Inc. is able to work with youth on a personal level to build trust and family engagement. She highlighted success stories with the program. Williams is the author of "He or She Might have ADD." Williams shared that the CBA grant allowed the program to serve additional families. Williams noted that there is room to grow. She invited all the members to visit. Williams answered questions regarding caseloads and how the program interacts with individuals and families. She noted that the program utilizes evidence-based techniques but does not utilize a set curriculum. Members discussed availability in other counties.

15. Public Comment

The floor was opened to public comment. There was no public comment.

16. New Business

17. Upcoming Meeting Planning

a. January 25, 2024, 9:00 AM, Virtual

b. April 25, 2024, 9:00 AM, In-Person

c. July 25, 2024, 9:00 AM, Virtual

d. October 24, 2024, 9:00 AM, In-Person

18. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Anderson

DRAFT