

Nebraska Children's Commission – Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee

Fifth Meeting
February 12, 2013
1:00PM-5:00PM
DHHS – Gold's Building, Room 534
1033 O Street, Lincoln, NE

Call to Order

Marty Klein called the meeting to order at 1:10pm and noted that the Open Meetings Act information was posted in the room as required by state law.

Roll Call

Subcommittee Members present: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Judge Larry Gendler, Kim Hawekotte, Anne Hobbs, Jana Peterson, Nick Juliano, Corey Steel, and Monica Miles Steffens.

Acting as resources to the committee: Stacey Conroy, Tony Green, Doug Koebernick, Liz Neeley, Jerall Moreland, Dan Scarborough, and Amy Williams.

Subcommittee Member(s) absent: Rachel Daugherty, Ron Johns, Pastor Tony Sanders, and Dalene Walker.

Resource members absent: Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, and Hank Robinson.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jana Peterson to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Anne Hobbs. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Anne Hobbs, Jana Peterson, Nick Juliano, and Monica Miles Steffens. Voting no: none. Rachel Daugherty, Judge Larry Gendler, Kim Hawekotte, Ron Johns, Pastor Tony Sanders, Corey Steel, and Dalene Walker were absent. Motion carried.

Approval of January 9, 2013, Minutes

A motion was made by Sarah Forrest to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2013, meeting, seconded by Kim Culp. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Judge Larry Gendler, Anne Hobbs, Jana Peterson, Nick Juliano, and Monica Miles Steffens. Voting no: none. Rachel Daugherty, Kim Hawekotte, Ron Johns, Pastor Tony Sanders, Corey Steel, and Dalene Walker were absent. Motion carried.

LR196 Finalization and Next Steps

The LR196 document has been updated with information from previous meeting discussions. Information is being added to the document that relates to the various recommendations. The original sub-committee that reviewed the document was asked to take a look through the final draft to determine if updates are needed.

Juvenile Justice consultant

Dr. Terry Lee has been contracted with to review the juvenile justice system in Nebraska and make recommendations. Dr. Kayla Pope will be working the Dr. Lee to coordinate his schedule. Dr. Lee toured the YRTC's and was able to meet with both youth and staff.

Legislative Update

Stacey Conroy from Senator Ashford's office gave a brief update on pending legislation. She noted that proposed legislation on the juvenile justice system was scheduled for hearing before the Judiciary committee on March 6 and March 7.

Marty and Ellen shared with the committee that the Nebraska Children's Commission had decided at the January meeting to remain neutral on proposed legislation. They also noted that the OJS committee would be continuing their review of the juvenile justice system as planned regardless of what was happening with proposed legislation.

Amy Williams provided information on pending legislation that Senator McGill has been working on related to mental health screening and children aging out of foster care.

YRTC Update

Jana Peterson and Dan Scarbrough provided information on the Kearney and Geneva YRTC's. They both reported that the pending legislation had been causing some issues for the youth. Jana reported that the Kearney YRTC had been getting lots of attention in the media and the stories about closing the centers was making the youth and staff uneasy.

Review of Current Juvenile Justice Process

The committee reviewed *The Juvenile Justice Process* flowchart and discussed elements of the process that would need to be considered in future discussions. The committee determined that the following six column headings were necessary: 1) contact with law enforcement; 2) JDAI (Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative); 3) charging decision; 4) post filing/predisposition (trial); 5) disposition (decision); and 6) post disposition. The committee also discussed that the following items were overarching themes: timeliness; data; collaborative leadership; advocacy;

services close to home; address poverty issues (basic needs met); coordinated case processing/management; and collaborate across multiple commissions. The committee also discussed how the group could organize into sub-groups in order to continue developing the ideas that the group brainstormed.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2013 from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. The place will be determined as soon as possible.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Monica Miles Steffens to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jana Peterson. The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.