

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

Twelfth Meeting
October 8, 2013
9:00AM-4:30PM
Child Advocacy Center
5025 Garland Street, Lincoln, NE

Call to Order

Ellen Brokofsky and Marty Klein called the meeting to order at 9:15am 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, Barb Fitzgerald, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, and Dr. Ken Zoucha.

Acting as resources to the committee: Tony Green, Liz Hruska, Dan Scarborough, and Amy Williams.

Subcommittee Member(s) absent: Kim Hawekotte, Tina Marroquin, Mark Mason, Pastor Tony Sanders, Monica Miles Steffens, and Dalene Walker.

Resource members absent: Jim Bennett, Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, Doug Koebernick, Jerall Moreland, Liz Neeley, Jenn Piatt, Hank Robinson and Julie Rogers.

Also attending: Leesa Sorensen, Nebraska Children's Commission.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of September 10, 2013, Minutes

A motion was made by Cindy Gans to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2013, meeting, seconded by Ron Johns. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Barb

Fitzgerald, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: none. Kim Hawekotte, Anne Hobbs, Tina Marroquin, Mark Mason, Pastor Tony Sanders, Monica Miles Steffens, and Dalene Walker were absent. Motion carried.

Co-chair's Report

Ellen Brokofsky and Marty Klein gave a co-chair's report. Ellen informed the committee that Dr. Liz Neeley had been named Executive Director of the Nebraska Bar Association. Ellen and Marty reminded everyone of the timeline for completing the facilitated discussion and reviewing the draft report so that the report can be provided to the Nebraska Children's Commission members. The rest of the meeting was devoted to the facilitation discussion.

Strategic Planning Facilitated Discussion

Joyce Schmeackle and Joan Frances began the facilitation process by giving the committee an overview of the work plan for the day as noted in the agenda. Joyce provided a data summary about the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers (YRTCs) in both Geneva and Kearney to the committee for review and discussion. Joan provided a draft report and recommendations outline for the committee's review and discussion. The committee reviewed the data, the seven report themes, and the preliminary recommendations that were gleaned from the various reports and discussions. The committee also reviewed reports regarding the juvenile justice system, the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers, and the ideas that had been generated throughout the previous committee meetings. The committee discussed the roll of treatment, evidence-based practices, screenings and assessments, and how the YRTCs may fit into the juvenile justice system. The committee came to the following preliminary conclusions:

System Reform

- Legislation
 - Inter-disciplinary
 - Collaborative
- Be more prescriptive
 - Process
- Identify core components
- Evidence-based planning – data driven
- Stages work in collaboration
- State responsibility
 - 5-7 year timeline
- Create Infrastructure to support transition

Spectrum of Treatment

Consistencies with Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice/Probation

- If Youth Fail Diversion & Drug Treatment then Supervision is needed
- Need to look at best practices from SAMHSA

- Medicaid system does not support
- Medical model vs Rehab. Model

The committee discussed the current trend data related to substance abuse. It was found that a high number of youth in the YRTC's had either a substance abuse or mental health disorder. The committee had a discussion of the need for additional treatment options to deal with youth who have treatment needs. The committee discussed the use of the Hastings facility and the need for additional treatment options at the YRTC's. It was noted that one of the problems is that the initial levels of care for some treatments may not be funded. It was noted during this discussion that the YRTC's will always be necessary because of the needs of certain youth and that the state has a responsibility to protect both the youth and the community. This discussion led to the following:

Assessment Tool both Treatment & offense	Access = Acceptance/Capacity = \$
Supervision	Treatment
Secure (Risk)	Access/acceptance/capacity/payment/cultural competence
Fire starter	For youth in
Sexual Perpetrators	Alcohol/Drug
Violent Offenses	Psychiatric
(Define community safety)	Med. Management
Examples where	Mental Health
	Family Therapy
	Conduct Disorder
	Behavior Management
	(Trauma Informed Care)
	Individualized

The committee members were then asked to vote on whether the YRTC's should be retained. Each committee member was also asked for their rationale for their individual vote. The vote and rationale were recorded as follows:

YRTC – Yes/No Vote with Rationale (Yes to Keep/No to Close)

- Yes For a specific populations
Better assessment
Tighter/Risk
- Yes Ditto
- Yes Ditto
- Yes Big Economic Impact of closing
- Yes Always be a need

- Yes Ditto
- Yes Deep End – utilize for that reason
- Yes Need to address distance
Need to use for right age
- No Cost required to do what we are going to do
Staff treatment
What & Where different
10 years secure core should look different
- No Smaller/more specialized
1 facility
More community based/residential
- Yes - Completely reconfigure
Regional/too
- Yes Completely reconfigure
Treatment/secure
Other system changes needed
- Yes Ditto
Population unknown
Would be different
More specializing
- No More regional
Family centered
Ideal facilities (YRTCs could be regional)
- No Ditto Marty

The committee then discussed the outcome of the vote. It was concluded based on the rationale that the yes and no votes were very similar in nature indicating that most participants agreed that the YRTC may fit in the future juvenile justice system in a modified way. It was suggested that facilities are needed in a more regional setting and that the YRTCs could be looked at to fit within a new regional facility model that would allow youth and their families to receive services in a more community based setting.

A motion was made by Nick Juliano to recess the committee meeting for lunch. The motion was seconded by Jana Peterson. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Barb Fitzgerald, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: none. Kim Hawekotte, Anne Hobbs,

Tina Marroquin, Mark Mason, Pastor Tony Sanders, Monica Miles Steffens, and Dalene Walker were absent. Motion carried.

The committee recessed at 12:30p.m.

The committee reconvened at 1:20p.m.

Subcommittee Members present: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Barb Fitzgerald, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Jana Peterson, Dalene Walker, and Dr. Ken Zoucha.

Acting as resources to the committee: Tony Green, Jerall Moreland, Dan Scarborough, and Amy Williams.

Subcommittee Member(s) absent: Kim Hawekotte, Mark Mason, Pastor Tony Sanders, Corey Steel, and Monica Miles Steffens.

Resource members absent: Jim Bennett, Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, Liz Hruska, Doug Koebernick, Liz Neeley, Jenn Piatt, Hank Robinson and Julie Rogers.

Also attending: Leesa Sorensen, Nebraska Children's Commission.

Facilitated Discussion (continued)

The committee continued its discussion of the various aspects of the juvenile justice process by breaking into discussion groups. The discussion groups were Big System Picture, Staff and Staff Training, Evidence-Based Practice, and Facilities. At the end of the discussion group time each group reported their ideas to the committee as follows:

Big System Picture

- Priority on funding the community based services on Continuum of Care
- Recommend cost sharing between counties and state at all levels
 - Develop formula to reduce deep end and high end
- Access and maximize federal funding
 - More from medical necessity model for Medicaid to Behavioral Health/Rehabilitation (Rehabilitative)

Staff and Staff Training

- Plug in to System of Care (SOC) planning related to recruiting, retaining and training staff
- Kearney has already tried many strategies to recruit staff. Additional/external support is needed (Marketing Plan)
- Recruitment efforts should target a variety of populations including retired persons and college students

- Partner with 2 and 4 year schools to create specific degrees/certifications. Pair this with incentives like tuition help/loan forgiveness. Include contract requirement . . . work for # of years. (letters behind your name). Improve job titles.
- Staff must demonstrate competency standards – both prior to employment and ongoing (all staff)
- Grandfather process for existing staff/new staff that have already received compatible training
- Staff ratios support best practice
- Plan for shortage of mental health professionals and make similar efforts to recruit, retain
- Train on social inequality and cumulative disadvantage
- Ensure consistent programming if system moves to a regional structure
- Provide external trainings (prosecutors, etc.) to inform on evidence-based practice, adolescent development, etc.
- Assure that all staff have consistent involvement in “BIG PICTURE”
- Focus recruitment of staff – varied racial and ethnic backgrounds

Facilities

- Dependent on what occurs
- Hold on major changes
- Continue to upgrade facilities as needed
- Watch data and close cottages as needed
- Incentivize counties with compensation
- Annual review and when get to high need population
- Based on population need
- Build structure around needs
- Prevention Deep End
- Annual Review

Evidence-Based Practices

(CMS Standards)

(Data-CQI)

Timeline: 1 year/2-3 year review (possible taskforce) [WHO]

Specifics:

- I. Screening/Assessments
 - a. Page 8-10 (Lee) = EBP List (Tiers)
- II. Referrals for accurate diagnoses using the screens and assessments
- III. Implement Treatment
 - a. Page 49 (Improving Programs: Lipsey, Howell, Kelly, Chapman & Carver)
 - b. Establish minimum standards for treatment provider ratio and frequency
- IV. Outcome/Recidivism

The committee discussed the fact that the overall recommendations of the committee represent a comprehensive and major reform initiative. The committee recommended that legislation be created that would put the committee’s plan in place and provide for the continued oversight of

this plan by the Nebraska Children's Commission, with an expectation that the Commission would provide leadership in regard to implementation of the recommendations.

The committee concluded the facilitated discussion time by reviewing the timeline for the report. Committee members were reminded that the draft report would be provided to them on November 5 or 6 for their review.

New Business

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2013 from 9:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Barb Fitzgerald to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kim Culp. The meeting adjourned at 4:10p.m.