

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

Fourteenth Meeting  
December 10, 2013  
9:00AM-4:30PM  
Country Inns & Suites, Lincoln Room  
5353 N. 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE

### **Call to Order**

Ellen Brokofsky and Marty Klein called the meeting to order at 9:13am 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, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Kim Hawekotte, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Mark Mason, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, Monica Miles Steffens, Dalene Walker, and Dr. Ken Zoucha.

Acting as resources to the committee: Tony Green, Liz Hruska, Doug Koebernick, Julie Rogers, and Dan Scarborough.

Subcommittee Member(s) absent: Barb Fitzgerald, and Pastor Tony Sanders.

Resource members absent: Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, Jim Bennett, Jerall Moreland, Liz Neeley, Jenn Piatt, Hank Robinson, and Amy Williams.

Also attending: Bethany Connor and Leesa Sorensen.

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

### **Approval of November 12, 2013, Minutes**

A motion was made by Kim Hawekotte to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2013, meeting, seconded by Ron Johns. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Kim Hawekotte, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Mark Mason, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, Monica Miles Steffens, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting

no: none. Barb Fitzgerald and Pastor Tony Sanders were absent. Judge Larry Gendler and Dalene Walker were absent for the vote. Motion carried.

### **Co-chair's Report**

Ellen Brokofsky and Marty Klein gave a co-chair's report. Ellen noted that Amy Williams had resigned from her position with Senator McGill's office and would no longer be part of the Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee.

Marty and Ellen then talked about the task to be completed for the day. Ellen noted that the task for the day was to finish the report that is in front of the committee. Ellen noted that she and Marty had reviewed the draft report that was provided by the facilitator and had asked Leesa to look at whether or not the report had answered the questions from LB 561. It was determined that the report did not cover all of the necessary items. Therefore, another draft of the report was created. Ellen noted that the committee had been e-mailed both versions of the report for their review.

Ellen provided a copy of the letter to Senator Ashford asking for an extension on the delivery date of the report until December 15. Senator Ashford had granted the extension. Senator Ashford had also asked the Committee to make sure that their recommendations were specific, especially related to the answers to LB561. The committee was also told that the Judiciary committee had scheduled a briefing on the report for December 19.

The committee discussed which report to use. A motion was made Dr. Ken Zoucha to use the December 2013 version of the draft report (which is a revised version of the report from the facilitator) as the basis for the report that would be finalized by the Committee. The motion was seconded by Nick Juliano. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Mark Mason, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, Monica Miles Steffens, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: none. Kim Hawekotte abstained. Barb Fitzgerald and Pastor Tony Sanders were absent. Judge Larry Gendler and Dalene Walker were absent for the vote. Motion carried.

### **Draft Report Review and Discussion**

The Committee reviewed the December 2013 version of the report and discussed the questions that were sent out in advance for consideration. The committee reviewed what youth should be placed at the YRTC's, how the Committee recommends identifying those youth, and if all cases should start in Juvenile Court. The Committee discussed recommendations related to youth having access to counsel and funding issues. The Committee discussed the creation of the Continuum of Care and how important having additional services in communities is to the process of keeping youth closer to home and out of the juvenile justice system. The Committee also discussed the educational needs of youth and how involvement in the juvenile justice system impacts youth. A suggestion was made that the report be reorganized to include an executive summary. One committee member also suggested that many of the items need to be assigned back to the Juvenile Services (OJS) committee or sub-committees for further development including the creating of a matrix to determine what youth should be assigned to the YRTC's.

A motion was made by Corey Steel to create a juvenile justice specific division within the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services for behavioral health service delivery, whose responsibility will be collaborating with local, county, regional, and state entities to create the Continuum of Care. This motion was seconded by Ron Johns. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Kim Hawekotte, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Nick Juliano, Mark Mason, Corey Steel, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: Jana Peterson. Sarah Forrest abstained. Barb Fitzgerald, and Pastor Tony Sanders were absent. Tina Marroquin, Monica Miles Steffens, and Dalene Walker were absent for the vote. Motion carried.

The Committee then discussed how the report would be finalized for submission to the Judiciary committee. A suggestion was made to have a scheduled time to meet by conference call to give input on the final version of the report. The Committee informally agreed to this process. The conference call was set up for Thursday, December 12 at noon.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2014 from 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m., if the Commission approves the continuation of the Committee.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Kim Hawekotte to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dalene Walker. The meeting adjourned at 4:50p.m.