

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

Twenty - Fourth Meeting
December 9, 2014
9:00AM-3:00PM
Child Advocacy Center
5025 Garland Street, Lincoln, NE 68504

Call to Order

Nicole Brundo called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. and noted that the Open Meetings Act information was posted in the room as required by state law.

Roll Call

Subcommittee Members present: Jeanne Brandner, Nicole Brundo, Kim Culp, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Tony Green, Kim Hawekotte, Dr. Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Tom McBride, Jana Peterson, Cassy Rockwell, Dr. Richard Weiner, and Dr. Ken Zoucha.

Acting as resources to the committee: Catherine Gekas-Steeby, Christine Henningsen, Monica Miles-Steffens, Jerall Moreland (10:30), Jenn Piatt (10:52), and Dan Scarborough.

Subcommittee Member(s) absent: Ellen Brokofsky, Barb Fitzgerald, Nick Juliano.

Resource members absent: Jim Bennett, Sen. Kathy Campbell, Sen. Colby Coash, Liz Hruska, Doug Koebernick, Mark Mason, Hank Robinson, and Julie Rogers.

Also attending: Bethany Connor and Leesa Sorensen from the Nebraska Children's Commission.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Kim Hawekotte to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Kim Culp. Voting yes: Jeanne Brandner, Nicole Brundo, Kim Culp, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Tony Green, Kim Hawekotte, Dr. Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Tom McBride, Jana Peterson, Cassy Rockwell, Dr. Richard Weiner, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: none. None abstained. Ellen Brokofsky, Barb Fitzgerald, and Nick Juliano were absent. Motion carried.

Approval of November 13, 2014 Minutes

A motion was made by Kim Hawekotte to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2014, meeting, seconded by Ron Johns. Voting yes: Jeanne Brandner, Nicole Brundo, Kim Culp, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Tony Green, Kim Hawekotte, Dr. Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Tom McBride, Jana Peterson, Cassy Rockwell, Dr. Richard Weiner, Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: none. None abstained. Ellen Brokofsky, Barb Fitzgerald, and Nick Juliano were absent. Motion carried.

Co-chair's Report

Nicole Brundo gave a co-chair's report. She noted that the agenda was very full and any report information was related to the agenda items, so would wait until the relevant items were called.

Membership Discussion and Action Item

Co-chair Nicole Brundo led a discussion of the OJS Committee's membership. Ellen Brokofsky nominated Juliet Summers of Voices for Children for a voting membership position on the Committee. Kim Hawekotte made a motion for Juliet Summers to be made a voting member of the OJS Committee, seconded by Dr. Anne Hobbs. Voting yes: Jeanne Brandner, Nicole Brundo, Kim Culp, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Tony Green, Kim Hawekotte, Dr. Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Tom McBride, Jana Peterson, Cassy Rockwell, Dr. Richard Weiner, and Dr. Ken Zoucha. Voting no: none. None abstained. Ellen Brokofsky, Barb Fitzgerald, and Nick Juliano were absent. Motion carried.

DHHS Behavioral Health System of Care Overview Presentation

Julie Scott led a presentation providing the Committee with an overview of the DHHS Behavioral Health System of Care. She walked the Committee through the Nebraska System of Care Strategic Planning Project with a PowerPoint walkthrough of the planning process and document. The group discussed the overlap between the System of Care project and the OJS Committee Strategic plan, and identified a need to create a walkthrough of relevant strategic plans to determine the overlap between various initiatives.

Juvenile Services Committee Meeting Planning Discussion

Nicole Brundo led a discussion to plan the meetings of the Juvenile Services Committee. The group determined that each meeting would address an element of the YRTC's and a topic from page 4, item L of the OJS Phase I Strategic Recommendations Report. The January meeting will include a discussion of the populations served in the YRTC's and a comparison and analysis of strategic plans. The February meeting will include a discussion of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) and the treatment services provided in the YRTC's to appropriately serve those populations. The March meeting will include a discussion of Community Based Programs, and how mental and behavioral health services are provided to juveniles in secure residential placements and the need for such systems of care services in the juvenile justice system throughout Nebraska. The April meeting will include a discussion of Screening and Assessment tools, and a broad discussion of the role of YRTC's in the juvenile justice system. The May meeting will be dedicated to a large discussion dedicated solely to the role and function of the YRTC's. The June meeting will include discussions regarding SPEP and evidence based evaluations.

Potential Juvenile Justice Legislation

Jenn Piatt discussed potential new juvenile justice legislation with the Committee. She noted some important potential changes, including ensuring Medicaid coverage for youths leaving facilities, definitions for "recidivism," addressing the issue of youths placed on the Central Registry, and codification of Guardian ad Litem guidelines.

Update on Roundtable Meeting with Senator Krist

Christine Henningsen updated the group on a roundtable meeting held by Senator Krist. She noted some of the top priorities identified include Evidence Based Practices and data sharing.

Voices for Children Race for Results Update

Juliet Summers gave the group an overview of the Voices for Children Race for Results Conference. She noted it was the first statewide conference of its kind in Nebraska. The conference included two days and three national keynote speakers. She noted one important concept from the conference was the idea that equality and equity are different concepts. Day one included education from a number of different speakers and organizations and the second day included devising next steps to continue the work.

Update on Roundtable Meeting with Senator Hadley

Tony Green updated the group on a roundtable meeting held by Senator Hadley. A number of officials in Buffalo County convened to discuss the issue of the youths in the Kearney YRTC facility and the cost to the county. The YRTC and the county are working through the issues to figure out the best way to serve the youths in the facility.

Crossover Initiative

Nicole Brundo noted that she had received communication from Nick Juliano that there were no substantive updates for the Crossover Initiative at this time.

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative

Kim Culp and Monica Miles Steffens provided the group with an update from the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. JDAI subcommittees are all working together. The Sarpy County and Douglas County initiatives are coming together to work on creating common definitions. Judge Gendler noted that in Sarpy County, the population in detention is much lower. Sarpy County has a new tracker program, and is offering more services than before, including educational tutors for youths who may have fallen behind in school.

New Business

No new business.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2015, from nine o'clock a.m. until three o'clock p.m., location TBA.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Tony Green to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jana Peterson. The meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.