Minutes

Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice
January 23, 2009

Members Present:
Ms. Barbara Levin Bergman
Dr. Joan Doughty
Mr. Jeffrey Fink
Honorable William Ervin
Ms. Amanda Good
Ms. Carol Harton
Mr. Jeriel Heard
Ms. Marilyn Latterman
Mr. Brian Philson
Ms. Kenyatta Stephens
Mr. William Schramm
Mr. Joseph Underwood
Honorable Elizabeth Weaver
Mr. Clarence Williams

Members Absent:
Ms. Ashley Miller
Dr. Arthur Carter
Mr. Leonard Dixon
Ms. Chiquita McKenzie-Bennett
Ms. Jamie Reed
Honorable Matthew Switalski
Mr. Gary Walker

Guests Present:
Rosemary Sarri, Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI)
Gabriel Nelson, MPHI
Mary Thompson, MPHI
Joan Moore, MPHI
Matt Kaley, Michigan Juvenile Detention Association (MJDA) – Muskegon County
Richard Gentry, MJDA, Ingham County
Terry Martinek, MJDA, Berrien County
Michelle Weemhoff, Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency
Paul Elam, Public Policy Associates Incorporated
Diane Perukle, Michigan State Police
Montrelle Baldwin, DHS Childrens Services
Oswald Rivera, DHS Community Support Services
Carol Spigner, Center for the Study of Social Policy (by phone)
Susan Kelly, Casey Family Programs (by phone)
Kristen Weber, Center for the Study of Social Policy (by phone)
John Evans, Director, Bureau of Juvenile Justice
Margaret Olesnavage, Bureau of Juvenile Justice

Staff Present:
Janie Soliz
Jeanette Scroggins
Lawana Jarrett
Shirley Winston

Call to Order/Roll Call
The meeting was called to order by Jeriel Heard at 11:46 a.m. Margaret Olesnavage took roll call. Thirteen members present, Chairman Heard stated there was a quorum.

Introductions
Chairman asked all guests to introduce themselves.

Approval of Agenda
A motion was made by Clarence Williams and seconded by Brian Philson to move all action* items to the top of the agenda. Motion approved.

1. Committee Reports

Special Emphasis Committee – Mr. Jeffrey Fink
Jeffrey Fink made a motion to fund four truancy programs in the state for three years each. Program would serve youth ages 6 to 15. The requirements for the grant include: 1) collaboration with local prosecutor, court, and schools and 2) commitment by the school to track truancy and outcomes. Each program would be funded for $60,000 the first year, $60,000 for the second year, and a 10% local match in the third year. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Delinquency Prevention Committee – Dr. Joan Doughty
The subcommittee completed a matrix and reviewed student drop out rates and graduation rates by county to determine the neediest counties. The committee's initial goal is to provide technical assistance to communities needing assistance with the grant writing process.

An announcement will be distributed for the Title V Delinquency Prevention initiative and five local units of government will be selected for the Title V planning grants. The planning grants would be for $32,000 for one year; July 2009 to June 2010. Joan Doughty made a motion for a total of $160,000 to fund this initiative. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be posted for Model Programs grants and five proposals will be awarded. The Model Programs being considered are Families and Schools Together (FAST), Lions-Quest Skills for Adolescence, and Truant Recovery Program. A motion was made by Joan Doughty for the Committee to appropriate $200,000 grants for five grantees to develop model programs. The Committee adopted the motion unanimously.

Joan Doughty reminded the Committee about the need to discuss the policy issue regarding the omission of "educational neglect" in the DHS portfolio of Child Protective Services policy with Stanley Stewart. Jeriel Heard agreed and stated that it would be raised in the legislative discussions with Stanley Stewart.

Jail Removal Committee – Sheriff Joseph Underwood
No action items from this Committee. Sheriff Underwood announced that Paul Elam will present at the statewide Sheriff's Conference. There were 9 violations

of juvenile jailing. BJJ staff continues to provide training on the electronic reporting of youth in jail on the JJOLT system. The training has been well received by law enforcement agencies but hundreds more need to be trained. Paul Elam and Jeanette Scroggins recently provided a PowerPoint presentation on DMC and jail removal data and JJOLT.

Youth Committee – William Schramm
No report at this time.

Legal Committee – Honorable William Ervin
The Children's Rights Lawsuit settlement requires that all relative placements must be licensed. He noted that there will be increased costs for the counties. Licensed relative caregivers will be paid at foster care rates. Judges are meeting with DHS to discuss. It could be an unfunded mandate from the state. There are implications for Title IV-E funding and Child Care Fund. Chairman Heard noted that there needs to be a waiver for relative caregivers that do not want to be licensed and that the Title-IVE requirements based on the income level of 1996 need to be changed. Paul Elam noted that Representative Spade and Senator Hardiman made those recommendations to the Children's Welfare Improvement Committee.

2. Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (Handout)
Michelle Weemhoff, Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency discussed the five (5) Priorities of the Michigan Juvenile Justice Collaborative (MJJC) for 2009. They include Prevention, Intervention, Reintegration, Equity, and Outreach and Education. See Attachments entitled: 1. Communication to MCJJ requesting and supporting a comprehensive DMC data collection system in the family division of circuit courts, 2. An Investment Strategy for Michigan's At-Risk Youth, 3. The MJJC also include as priorities concerns regarding:

- The need for a better system to evaluate competency for juvenile offenders
- How do you "fix" a juvenile to become competent to stand trial
- Juvenile Justice Reentry Model from years ago as a national model

3. Bureau of Juvenile Justice – John Evans
Presentation by John Evans stating that the State of Michigan juvenile justice leadership is evaluating the mission for the Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ) as BJJ asks what the state system should look like. This will be a tough budget year and would like juvenile justice professionals (courts, public, and private) to approach the legislature with a unified plan. He notes there is a need for BJJ to house the "end of the line" youths, start to reinvest in prevention and reintegration with the financial savings from the closure of state facilities, and begin advocacy work for juvenile offenders in need of alternative services. He noted that BJJ will submit a request for funding to plan and implement a reintegration pilot project for Ingham County.
Committee members raised questions regarding female offenders and their transfer from the closed Adrian Training School. John Evans responded that the State of Michigan does have a program for females located in Escanaba,

Michigan and there are four private facilities that offer residential services for females.
John assured MCJJ members that he is working to smooth the DHS contracting process for grantees. Chairman Heard requested that Mr. Evans communicate with MCJJ regarding the amount of money that the State of Michigan is in peril of losing from federal allocations due to the delayed contracting process.

4. Michigan Public Health Institute (Handout)
Presentation from the Institute representatives regarding the site review visits completed on Title V and Title II locations. Special note that the Alpena site does not have the dollars to continue the program. Recommendation from MPHI that Grants Unit provides training on sustainability. Ms. Jarrett noted that Grants Unit is trying to secure training from OJJDP.
MPHI personnel explained that a new data entry tool is available and will streamline reporting process.

5. Race Equity Report (Handout)
Susan Kelly, Montrelle Baldwin, Osvaldo Rivera, Carol Spigner, Kristin Weber, Paul Elam all participated in a teleconference to provide the MCJJ with a recounting of the history of the Race Equity Report. The team noted that the research study had both an intellectual and emotional effect on the researchers. The highlights of their recounting included:

- Use the report as a sounding board through the DHS administration and with external agencies
- Solutions must come from DHS and the community
- DHS is developing training to initiate changes
- Report concerns African Americans, but DHS needs to address all nationalities
- DHS looks at the report through both child welfare and juvenile justices eyes
- Service systems need to talk with each other (juvenile justice, child welfare, foster care)
- Change will come from the grass roots

6. Michigan Juvenile Detention Association (MJDA)Conference Report (Handout)
The MJDA representatives thanked MCJJ for sponsoring the Conference. Over 253 persons attended the training on Rational Behavior Therapy (RBT). Michigan is leading the way nationally with this treatment approach. RBT is an evidence-based approach and is practiced in Ingham County Detention. MJDA will host a conference November 18-20, 2009.

7. Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning
In the interest of time, Diane Perukel from the Michigan State Police will present at the next meeting. She will be placed 1st on the agenda.

Adjournment