



Marc Elrich
County Executive

Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D.
Director

COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Virtually

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

+1 443-692-5768 United States, Baltimore (Toll)

Conference ID: 452 187 752#

Agenda

- 7:00 p.m. I. Welcome – Chris Jennison, Chair.**
- 7:05 p.m. II. Attendance –** Diane will take attendance. Please Mute your microphone unless you are speaking.
- 7:10 p.m. III. Old Business –**
- a. February 2020 meeting minutes – approved, no objections
- 7: 15 p.m. IV. Updates from Commission members regarding services to youth involved with DJS.**
- a. Carlotta Woodward, Chief Juvenile Court Division, Montgomery Count States Attorney Office
 - a. 45 kids with cases for release - 23 released, 13 denied, 9 pending
 - b. 37 additional kids with 63 cases for closure – 13 closed, 5 denied, 19 still pending
 - c. Arrest are down
 - d. States Attorney Office staff are primarily working remotely
 - e. Focus is on youth safety and ensuring that youth are receiving services either in placement or in the community
 - b. Mary Siegfried, Supervisor, Juvenile Division, Office Public Defender

- a. Public Defenders are communicating with clients only via phone; not permitted to enter the youth facilities
- b. Everyone in Public Defenders Office is working remotely
- c. State system was attacked by ransomware which has created a significant hurdle due to lost access to email and still trying to recover all files.
- d. Clients in DJS custody are frightened because of their concerns about contracting COVID while in facilities.
- e. The Public Defender's Office requested that all youth in DJS custody be tested as part of efforts to slow the spread within facilities.
- f. Youth in the community are getting more services than many of those in facilities.
- g. Silver Oak – many youth opted to stay in order to graduate
 - i. 27 out of 29 youth have tested positive; 15 staff have tested positive
- h. Advocacy was successful in that youth are getting regular court dates. Youth charged as adults are the outliers to this.
- i. ERC – has been providing services remotely, providing youth with tablets to help ensure students are connecting to school, therapy, etc.
- c. Nathaniel Tipton, Social Worker Child Welfare
 - a. Reports and screenings are down over 100% compared to last year for March and April attributed to youth having less contact with professional adults (e.g., teachers, coaches, etc.)
- d. Dalbin Osorio, Program Manager, Children With Intensive Needs Program, Collaboration Council for Children Youth and Families
 - a. Update provided by email - We have only had one referral to the LCT for a child with JJ involvement, and the only program we have to connect him to is Street Outreach due to suspected gang involvement. Our DJA representative had shared that no cases would be heard by the judges, due to court closures, but that case in particular was dismissed. We are currently working with our Wrap provider and federation of families to come up with some online webinars for youth, to keep them engaged during this time, but that will be open to WRAP kids.
- e. Joanna Bonner, Circuit Court
 - a. Court house is closed with limited exceptions - shelter hearings and juvenile detention hearings are considered exceptions; Hearings are being held remotely (via bluejean

software) to reduce the number of people in the building at any given time

- i. Technology has not been a hurdle for hearing however when interpreters are needed this has been challenging
 - ii. DJS facilities have been cooperative and supportive of youth participation in remote hearings
- b. 3 juvenile clerks are in place but no case managers
- c. Court is not on an electronic filing system yet (1 of 3 jurisdictions in this situation)
- d. Court house is anticipated to re-open on June 8th but what that looks like is still to be determined
- f. Susan Farag, County Council
 - a. County Council has had to approach the FY21 budget as a continuity of services budget keeping it as close to current as possible.
 - i. To see current details - <https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/BASISOPERATING/Common/Index.aspx>
- g. Frank Duncan, Department of Juvenile Services
 - a. See website for COVID updates - <https://djs.maryland.gov/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>
 - b. Most community providers are moving to virtual programming/services; one program providing mentoring services has been able to continue in-person meetings in limited capacity
 - c. The DJS office has shifted to mostly remote work.

8:15 p.m. IV. New Business

- a. Judges meeting will be in June – Diane called for topics to be sent in
- b. Carlotta Woodward, Chief Juvenile Court Division will be speaking at July meeting
- c. Diane is able to set up team meetings for any of the committees just let her know

8:20 p.m. V. Announcements from Agency Members, Commissioners and Members of the Public

8:30 p.m. VI. Meeting Adjourned

Commission on Juvenile Justice

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