



Marc Elrich
County Executive

Raymond L. Crowel, Psy.D.
Director DHHS

COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

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

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT: Kimberly Alfriend, Bonnie Beavers, Carol Cichowski, Bruce Clark, Don Chisholm, Eddie Ellis, Tracey Friedlander, Gerda Gallop-Goodman, Melissa Goemann, Chris Jennison, Ijeoma Okoro, Erynn Penn, Joshua Pestaner, Michael Pinard, Jonathan Scriven, Tom Smith, Heather Sweren, Shua Tajanmul, and Erin Whaley.

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT: Joanna Bonner, Amy Daum, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Susan Farag, Steve Miller, Steve Neff, Mary Siegfried, Nathaniel Tipton, and Carlotta Woodward.

EMERITUS MEMBERS PRESENT: None.

ABSENT MEMBERS: Kevin Redden, Ebony Stoutmiles and Thomas Squire.

STAFF LIASON PRESENT: Diane Lininger.

GUESTS: Dr. Rolando Santiago, and Stephanie Fernandez.

SPEAKER: Judge Marielsa Bernard.

- I. **Welcome** – Chair, Christopher Jennison, welcomed members, called meeting to order, and communicated goals of the meeting to present members and guests.
- II. **Attendance** – Diane took attendance and asked all attendees to mute microphones unless speaking.
- III. **Speaker** Judge [Marielsa Bernard](#) spoke about concerns of juveniles and young adults involved in the criminal justice system. Topics will include reentry initiatives and ways in which the Commission on Juvenile Justice can collaborate with other commissions to help create trauma informed trainings and programs in the County.

Commentary (Judge Bernard):

Commission members may be interested in learning more about initiatives below.

- [Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\).](#)
 - [Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\): Leveraging the Best Available Evidence.](#)
 - [Building a Trauma Informed System of Care Toolkit.](#)
Supported by: Building Brains in Tennessee.
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Kids Like Us Program Information:

- [Frederick County, Maryland](#)
 - [Addiction Policy Forum](#)
 - [Prevention Collaboration in Action](#)
- Janet Reno said, “unless we understand the effect of substandard housing poor education indifference or children poverty police brutality all of these factors and others in effect of these will be in violence again.”
 - “There is a report that came out of the Justice Policy Institute that spoke about Maryland's data that said that even though people of color made up only 31% of Maryland's population they constitute more than 70% state prison population percent of those in local jails.”
 - Most people don't understand the multiple issues that are faced daily by many members of our community, especially children and youth of color. difficulties that youth of color deal with daily and the trauma they've experienced.
 - It hurts when judicial system fails our youth. “So, in my view that's a failure of our system, even after a juvenile case has been closed supposedly successfully, I often hear that they've picked up adult charges or even worse.”
 - Re-Entry programs and services needs more attention in Montgomery County
 - “Childhood adversity contributes to most of our major chronic physical and mental health issues as well as economic and social health issues.”
 - The development of a countywide ACEs resilience initiative is especially important.
 - Work group hopes to implement requirements for Circuit Court all pre-sentence reports in adult criminal matters as well as reports in juvenile court provide information about parental incarceration. Determining if a defendant or juvenile respondent has a child must be considered in making a final determination.
 - Wants to bring more successful initiatives to Montgomery County found in other counties like Prince Georges and Frederick. Examples: Adam's House (1-stop shop for males/fathers,) and Handle with Care Initiative.

IV. Old Business

- a. **Vote to finalize September 2021 minutes.** Motion made by Francha Davis, and Motion seconded by Steve Miller. All were in favor.

V. New Business

- a. **Next Meeting November 16, 2021-** State of Maryland Delegate Sandy

Bartlett, Senator Jill Carter, and James L. Dold, J.D., CEO & Founder of Human Rights for Kids. To discuss Juvenile Interrogation Protection Act and how the Commission on Juvenile Justice can assist in getting bill passed this year.

b. Reporting on the County Executive's Budget hearing – Carol Cichowski and Melissa Goemann.

- No concrete proposals, early in the budget process
- MD Surplus FY-21
- Health and Human Services 6.1% of County budget
- Equity lens
- Better job with the police, more training. Having Social Workers handle mental health crisis and more social workers being hired by Montgomery County Public Schools.
- Attached budget notes
- [Reimagining School Safety and Student Well-Being](#). As noted in: Preliminary Report as of August 30, 2021.

c. Introduction of all members on the call – Commissioners introduced themselves to each other on the call and gave a few lines about who they are.

d. Diane – sending out email asking which subcommittee or ad-hoc committee commissioners would like to join. Diane will be setting up meetings.

VI. Meeting Adjourned