



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Uma Ahluwalia
Director

COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2014

CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT: Carole Brown, Linda Currie, Jennifer Gauthier, Michael Gruenberg, Barbara Holtz, Christopher Jackson, Mehul Madia (Vice Chair), Gladstone Marcus (Co-Chair Government and Community Relations), Julie Malloy, Dana Pisanelli, Carlean Ponder (Co-Chair Care, Custody and Placement), Lisa Winer.

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT: Blaine Clarke, Robert Carter, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Risa Mainprize, George Simms, Michael Subin, Ira Thomas, Jenny West, and Elijah Wheeler (Co-Chair Care, Custody and Placement).

ABSENT MEMBERS: Susan Farag, Chris Fogleman (Chair), Julian Haffner, Perry Paylor, Roberta Pieczenik, Jasmine Shergill, Mary Siegfried and Timothy Warner

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT: Diane Lininger

EMERITUS MEMBERS:

GUESTS: Nicki Drotleff, Nick Moroney and Jose Saavedra.

Commission on Juvenile Justice

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facsimile

I. Announcements /Preliminary business

- A. There was a field trip to Silver Oak on January 27, 2014. The group reported that it is privately run and contracted by DJS. It recently was allowed to increase its population to 96. It currently has 56 residents. The group was especially impressed by the variety of vocational programs offered.
- B. There will be a field trip to the Alfred D. Noyes facility on February 26, 2014 at 10 am.
- C. April's meeting with the Juvenile Judges will be held on April 8th due to spring break. A sign-up sheet was passed around to create a committee to consider a new format for the judges meeting.
- D. The Commission Retreat will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 1301 Piccard Drive at the DHHS building.
- E. The Lead4 Life's Thanksgiving and Holiday dinners were discussed. Jennifer Gauthier was commended for creating two wonderful events for residents at two facilities. Jennifer thanked Commission members for attending and donating needed items. Several churches donated items as well.
- F. The Executive Committee met on January 30, 2014. The following agenda items were discussed. The committee created a skeleton agenda format so that committee meetings might run more smoothly and create minutes to be relayed to the rest of the Commission. Senator Frosh and Delegate Dumais will be asked to speak at the June meeting. A discussion was held about how best to preview legislation in order to make recommendations. There was a suggestion that the Advocates for Child and Youth group (ACY) may have some advance notice about what future bills affecting youth may be considered.
- G. Carole Brown was nominated to represent the CJJ at the CJCC meetings.
- H. A report on SASCA (Screening and Assessment Services for Children and Adolescents) was given by the manager for Behavioral Services for Children and Adolescents. She reported that after an appointment time analysis and utilization of the SASCA program, it was decided to decrease staff hours for SASCA screenings due to under-utilization. Instead some staff will be shifted to the clinic to provide mental health services till 7:00 pm.

II. Old Business

- A. The minutes from the November meeting were accepted as presented after a motion and a second.
- B. The Commission had tasked the Care, Custody and Placement Committee with writing a letter regarding expanding vocational programs for youth in Montgomery County. That letter was reviewed during the Commission meeting. Some

suggestions were made for changes and some additional research. The letter will be reviewed again at the March Commission meeting.

III. Committee Reports

- A. The Care, Custody and Placement Committee wrote a letter to Senator Raskin and Delegate Kaiser concerning the insufficient amount and poor condition of the education trailers at Noyes. Since there are only three educational trailers and four housing units, one of the housing units is unable to access the educational trailer on a daily basis. The Commission voted to have this letter sent.
- B. The Government and Community Relations Committee discussed the upcoming legislation related to juvenile justice issues. Four bills were discussed but no decisions were made on a Commission response to these bills.

IV. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm