



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Commission on Juvenile Justice

Marc Elrich
County Executive

James C. Bridgers, Jr. Ph.D., MBA
Director

Commission on Juvenile Justice Meeting

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Virtual Meeting

CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT: Kimberly Alfriend, Gerda Gallop-Green, Melissa Goemann, Andrew Messick, Elizabeth Pentecost, Michael Pinard,

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT: Joanna Bonner (Diana Olsen substituted), Francha Davis, Elizabeth Emen, Susan Farag, Kathy Estrada, Shakirra Haynes, Brett Lonker, Steve Neff, and Nathaniel Tipton.

ABSENT MEMBERS: Bonnie Beavers, Carol Cichowski, Scott Joftus, Jonathan Scriven, Heather Sweren, Erin Whaley and Carlotta Woodward.

ABSENT EMERITUS MEMBERS: Carole Brown and Chris Fogleman.

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT: Diane Lininger

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting was opened by Melissa Goemann, Co-Chair of the Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice (CJJ).

Discussion of Priorities for FY-26

- a. Slides from Scott Joftus Strategic plan that was looked at last year
 1. Mandate
 2. Work plan is due June 30, 2025
 3. CJJ budget priorities slide
 4. Final slide outlined our objectives from last year
- b. Priorities from this past year
 1. Regarding mental health, Elizabeth Emen, Ex-Officio from Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health services, would be happy to share themes or perspectives from her role supervising Family Intensive Services and the clients we serve at any time in the future. Regarding substance abuse, Diane spoke regarding working with other commissions for substance abuse issues and mental health (ex. Alcohol and Other Drug misuse advisory council and Mental Health advisory committee)
 2. The idea of having a liaison attend those meetings was also raised
 3. Sara Rose was discussed as a possible speaker on the issue
 4. Francha stated that we need more information

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5. Asking the judges at the June meeting regarding programs/resources was also raised as a good idea
6. Discussion regarding our interest in recommending more resources for programs (ex. ERC)
7. The final priority discussed was restorative practices
8. Partnering with Commission on Children and Youth and Mental Health advisory committee. Should we have a liaison attend those meetings?

II. Minutes from April 2025 meeting – Motion to pass, was seconded and all were in favor.

New Business

- a. Discussion regarding topics/questions for the Judges meeting in June
 1. What resources are available? What else/more is needed?
 2. Noyes – is there any update?
 3. Are specific services available for LGBT youth? What are they?
 4. What trends are they seeing in juvenile cases now?
 5. Ask them about school-based referrals, comparisons to previous years, racial based training, restorative justice, gaps in services
- b. Nomination committee – will be electing Executive committee at beginning of July meeting to start at July meeting, volunteers are needed
 1. Commissioners NEED to volunteer to head up the legislative committee. Carol Cichowski will be leaving, and Bonnie Beavers is no longer eligible to serve as Chair or Co-Chair

VII. Upcoming Meetings

- a. **June Meeting** – we will be having our annual meeting with Juvenile Judges. Honorable Karla N. Smith, Honorable Kathleen Dumais and Master Lena Kim will all be in attendance
- b. **July Meeting** – Discussion regarding ideas for speakers that are related to our priorities. Elijah Wheeler from the Collaboration Council on Children and Youth was suggested. Diane will contact Elijah.
- c. **August Meeting** – No meeting in August
- d. There were no announcements from Members

VIII. Meeting Adjourned