

Youth Justice Committee

Location: **Teams Meeting**

Date: Friday, 8/5/2022

Time: 10:00 A.M. CDT

Staff Present: Richard Kennedy, Exec Dir., Craig Hargrow, Dep. Exec. Dir., Rob Burke, Shaun Noblit, Melissa McGee, Russette Marcum-Embry, Jerri Moore, Wendy Pickering, Vicki Taylor, Zanira Whitfield, Carla Walker

Commission Members Present: Rob Mortensen, Chair, Amy Jones, Judge Sharon Green, Judge Rob Philyaw, Stan Settles

Commission Members Absent: Cameron Carver, Trey Jones, Charmaine Kromer, Michael Rediker, Dr. Altha Stewart, Glenda Terry

1. **Call to Order – Rob Mortensen, Chair**

After ascertaining there was a quorum, Mortensen called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. **Approval of May 2022 Youth Justice Meeting Minutes (ACTION)**

Mortensen asked for a motion to approve the Youth Justice Committee minutes from the February Commission meeting.

Settles moved to approve the minutes from May 2022. Jones seconded. Unanimously Approved.

3. **Staff Updates**

CASA Grants Management – Russette Marcum-Embry

Fiscal year 21-22 fourth quarter expense reports and quarterly reports were due April 25th. All were submitted on time and sent to TCCY Accounting for payment. Marcum-Embry continues to support CASA grantees with technical assistance as needed.

MINUTES

Marcum-Embry distributed applications for FY 22-23 funding to CASA programs. Applications have been received and contracts are being prepared by the TCCY fiscal team. The team is also working on a contract amendment for TN CASA Association for the newly allocated \$200,000.

Kennedy updated the Committee on the TN CASA Association budget changes.

Marcum-Embry assisted in conducting *Building Strong Brains Tennessee* Training-for-Trainers in June at TBI headquarters for representatives from the TN Alliance for Drug Endangered Children and Child Care Resource & Referral Network.

Marcum-Embry has transitioned to the role of Ombudsman Program Director for TCCY. She is learning/navigating these responsibilities while maintaining those of the CASA Grants Manager.

Marcum-Embry continues to serve on the Wilson County Foster Care Review Board, the UT College of Social Work Field Advisory Committee, the Children and Families Chapter of the USOA, and as TCCY/Kennedy's representative on the Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Federal Formula Grant Update- Vicki Taylor

Taylor and Whitfield worked on revising the compliance monitoring manual to align with JJRA 2018 statutory requirements and submitted it timely to OJJDP. On July 6th, we received an email from Cara Blair, our OJJDP Program Manager, stating a review had been conducted on Tennessee's CMM and there were additional changes needed and resubmit within 7 days (July 14th) or request an extension if needed. Whitfield requested an extension to July 22nd due to being on AL the following week. Request was approved.

TCCY received the FY22 Title II Formula Grants solicitation from OJJDP and the due date for submission is August 2, 2022. This is the application we complete to receive federal funding. The State Advisory Group (SAG) will receive a copy of our Three-year plan for input prior to submission to OJJDP.

As a reminder, states have not received their FY2021 award until CMMs are approved.

TCCYs Request for Proposals were distributed statewide on June 29 and a copy was sent to the SAG for distribution. Purpose Areas are Delinquency Prevention, Substance and Alcohol Abuse and System Improvement. The System Improvement application

includes two focuses this year: Behavior Response System and a Juvenile Diversion Program. The due date for applications to be received in the TCCY office is July 29th. Applications will be sent to the Grant Review Committee (GRC) to review and score and the GRC is scheduled to meet to discuss applications on August 9 and make recommendations to the Full Commission. The Full Commission will vote on applications during the August 19th Commission meeting.

The youth justice division team has wrapped up the year-end close out process for grantee invoices.

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) Annual Conference was May 18-21 in Washington, DC and their focus is on improving juvenile justice and delinquency prevention systems, practices, and policies. Hargrow, Kromer, Noblit and Taylor attended.

Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders Update- Zanira Whitfield

Whitfield is in the process of putting the FY 2021 compliance monitoring data into the OJJDP Compliance Monitor Reporting Tool in order to submit to OJJDP by due date August 2, 2022. For the current compliance monitoring cycle (10/1/21 to 9/30/22) there are 19 DSO violations. Youth justice staff and regional coordinators continue to monitor facilities and provide technical support.

Compliance Monitoring Update- Wendy Pickering

Pickering has completed all Federal Formula Grant Monitoring for FY 2020-2021. Pickering has received and approved all Corrective Action Plans submitted by Federal Formula Grant subrecipients.

Pickering has completed all Reimbursement Grant Monitoring for FY 2020-2021. Pickering has approved all Corrective Action Plans submitted thus far.

Pickering has begun CASA Grant Monitoring for FY 2020-2021. Pickering has met with all new CASA directors to discuss review process. Pickering anticipates having CASA monitoring completed by end of August.

Pickering is working on updating 2022 CPO Plan to reflect 2021 monitoring results.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities- Craig Hargrow

The Youth Justice team continues to move forward with the R/ED proposal submitted by UT Health Science Center. The Grant Review Committee recommended the grant proposal for approval on June 29, 2022.

Hargrow continues to serve on the DCS Racial Justice Workgroup and is a member of the Policy Committee. The DCS Racial Justice Workgroup is working on using SafeMeasures to collect race and ethnicity data for the children they serve to determine whether and where disparities occur. SafeMeasures is Internet-based reporting service from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, a global nonprofit research organization. SafeMeasures uses analytics to help social service agencies achieve better outcomes, improve service, and operate more effectively. Hargrow has requested training and access to the DCS SafeMeasures system.

Council on Youth Justice- Shaun Noblit

Noblit reported that he is working on getting a date and venue booked for the first meeting of the Council on Youth Justice. Noblit would like to invite someone from the Legislature's Ad Hoc Committee on Juvenile Justice. Noblit said he hopes the work of the Council will produce an annual report of some type. This Council is still in development and the stakeholders will also contribute to goals and

4) **Motion to Adjourn**

Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. Judge Philyaw seconded and all approved

Meeting ended at 11:05 a.m.

Prepared by: Russette Marcum-Embry