

## JJRC Subcommittee – System Improvement Notes - 8/25

Present: Mark Rolon, Morissa Hen, Gerard Quin, Amy McCormack, Allyson Clary, Joy Barrett, Katherine Partington

- The group discussed that our chairperson, Patricia Clough, has resigned from group. Will send an email out for next meeting to discuss picking new chair or if co-chair will take place (Alissa Cannon).
- Gerry, Allyson and Amy went over the JJ Assessment flow chart and discussed JJ assessment process.
  - o Amy provided percentages thus far for the assessment process. How many assessments, law enforcement agreeing with recommendations, overall outcomes.
  - o Discussed the CANS assessment: brief vs. comprehensive. Comprehensive is used later in Court if ordered or requested to determine disposition
  - o Questions about how long assessments take, interview process, how to conduct the CANS overall. Allyson provided examples of day-to-day work as an assessment JPPO.
- Joy brought up about youth sexual offenders. More often than not, the suspect is also a victim. How to handle these youth/cases? No current protocols for CAC. She is in a different work group run by the AG's office.
- Gerry, Allyson and Amy advised the group of the Court process for Juvenile Justice
- Informed the group of RCR system and future goals for CANS to become a universal tool used across NH
- Discussed diversion programs, and that law enforcement are still able to send kids to diversion without JJ referral. Some diversion costs money for families, which is hardship and not an option for some. Programs are significantly underfunded over all. Merrimack Valley just recently dissolved its program.
- Assessment JPPOs make obtainable recommendations for families and take into consideration the family's ability to follow through throughout the assessment process.
- The group briefly discussed BCBH/ Fast Forward. Darryl Tenney on vacation and absent from meeting – FF is wraparound agency that provides case management and connects families to appropriate services, typically after alternative community services have been utilized.
- The group discussed cost reduction long term of JJ transformation, recidivism rates, early intervention for families and connection to services.
- The group found the chart of the assessment process and juvenile justice system very helpful. Morissa asked if this could be the start of us building a systems map to intersect and determine the gaps for system improvement.
- Joy and Amy discussed thinking of juveniles as kids and how we can work towards benefit them overall in our system
- Amy brought up how as a State we are now able to support kids even after 18, helping them long term for success which has not been a norm in our State prior to the past few years.
- This group has opportunity to connect different departments, services, programs together and help everyone understand how our systems can work together.

- Mark stated that DCYF/DHHS is positively changing its perspective on how to help families vs. penalize, and we should work to change public perspective and informing them of how to get services.
- Discussed how we can show all the great changes to legislatures and public. What efforts have been made to improve public perception thus far? Morissa suggested a documentary series. The recent job description videos were helpful as well.
- Next agenda items – what are the gaps in the map presented in today’s meeting (assessment flow chart and map of JJS), list of what programs/departments/services we should target for improving connections.
- Next meeting – September 22<sup>nd</sup> (fourth Thursday of the month from here on)