

**Department of Juvenile Justice  
Circuit 4 Advisory Board Meeting**

June 13, 2014 @ 10AM  
Youth Crisis Center  
3015 Parental Home Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32216

- PRESENT:** Brooke Brady, Jim Clark, Chief David Coffman, Bryan Hensley, Lawrence Hills, Daniel Leeper, Bobby Lippelman, Rob Mason, Tricia Meisner, Mary Ruth Murray, Jim Pimentel, Taurean Sinclair, Kim Sirdevan, Chief Carson Tranquille, Michael Wingate, Vicki Waytowich
- ABSENT:** Keith Fields, Justice Long, Bob Olson
- EXCUSED:** Chief Gary Goble, Nisaa Knight, E. Denise Lee, Andreau Powell, Jim Pimentel, Chereese Stewart, Susan Woodford
- GUESTS:** Gary Bevel, Jill Clemens, State Attorney Angela Corey, Carolyn Hayward, Eileen Kelley (Times-Union), Gwen Steverson, Sabrina Walker, Patricia Cooper Way, Kristellys Zolondek
- STAFF:** Debra Guide

Chairman Jim Clark called the Circuit 4 Juvenile Justice Advisory Board meeting to order at 10:03am by. A quorum was present and notice had been provided in advance per Sunshine Law.

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Clark welcomed State Attorney Angela Corey, Board members and guests, and gave a brief overview of the Advisory Board's function. He announced that he is encouraged by the City Council's support of Civil Citation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Advisory Board minutes of April 11, 2014 as submitted was made by Mr. Hensley and seconded by Mrs. Brady. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the Executive Committee minutes of May 9, 2014 as submitted was made by Mr. Pimentel and seconded by Mr. Lippelman. Motion carried.

**ANNUAL REPORT**

Ms. Sirdevan, Planning Committee Chair, distributed a draft of the Annual Report. She asked the Board to review the draft and provide her with appropriate updates. Board Members were asked to identify issues, concerns, or make recommendations. The Board recommended:

1. An increased-level of funding for prevention services.
2. Changes in legislation around the area of data entry for those youth arrested. Such change would allow youth to be entered into the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) as "prevention" rather than "delinquency" for those youth who are not charged with a serious offense (i.e. first time misdemeanants). This would allow youth to complete a program or probation without incurring a record that could hinder their ability to apply for particular jobs or academic program/settings, or armed forces. Ms. Brady noted that Civil Citations are entered into the prevention system and only DJJ can see the information. It would have to be expanded for law enforcement to see that information. She stated at-large diversions are not entered on any face sheets.

3. The local JDAI Collaborative workgroup has identified areas of need to include the use of electronic monitoring in lieu of detention, ATSD/intensive monitoring, domestic violence respite bed program, and giving a 48 hour grace period for Failure to Appear cases. A Girls Court is being developed in Duval County in order to effectively address the particular issues that females face in the delinquency system as well as areas of trauma, mental health and substance abuse.
4. Mr. Clark supported the State Attorney's Office expungement training for parents.
5. Improving parental involvement/compliance of youth who are sent to the Juvenile Assessment Center and referred for services. Dr. Waytowich announced pending implementation of a new Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant that will address care coordination. The grant addresses mental health and substance abuse issues of youth with misdemeanor charges.

Mr. Clark asked members to assist Ms. Sirdevan in completing the report. A draft will be distributed to Board Members for review.

### **CIVIL CITATION UPDATE**

Mr. Clark opened the floor to State Attorney Angela Corey. She corrected misstatements in the media that Duval County (Jacksonville) leads the state in juvenile direct files. Corey reported Duval is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> out of 20 circuits in the state. The State Attorney indicated her office supports civil citations for non-violent crimes and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted that excludes batteries. The MOU is currently being routed to the Sheriff's Offices within the Circuit.

Mr. Mason asked the State Attorney if it would be feasible to add at-large diversion data to the monthly civil citation information, along with data comparing Circuit 4 against other circuits. He stated the Board is interested in reviewing the collective data. State Attorney Corey responded that she is concerned about the public records law and privacy rights, and supports protecting a child's record. She is focused on improving the process, and will give the request further consideration.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

A summary of legislative changes was distributed to participants to stimulate thought on direction of legislative issues and encourage discussion at future meetings. Mr. Clark announced the resignation of DJJ Secretary Wansley Walters.

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

***Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Committee*** – Mr. Hills presented a recommendation to merge the DMC Committee with the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) meetings. A proposal was distributed for review and the membership approved the committee's recommendation.

***Faith Community Network Committee*** – Chief Coffman reported the committee has reached out to Clay and Nassau Counties but have not held their first meeting. The Neighborhood Accountability Boards (NAB) are doing well and expanding. Mr. Hills announced the Mayor's Office has funded an additional NAB location. An overall program coordinator and an additional monitor are needed.

***Grant Committee*** – Dr. Vicki Waytowich and Mr. Clark briefly reviewed how prevention funding was allocated in the past and expressed a desire to reinstate that process. Dr. Waytowich announced the new Criminal Justice Reinvestment grant will provide mental health and substance abuse screenings to children coming through the Juvenile Assessment Center. The grant will allow for more intense care coordination.

Mr. Mason recommended forming a Sealing and Expunging Subcommittee. Mr. Mason volunteered to chair the subcommittee. Mrs. Brady and Dr. Waytowich agreed to participate.

**Legislative Committee** – Mr. Lippelman announced the addition of eight members. He asked members to send the committee their issues and to assist in identifying stakeholders. The committee will meet in July.

**Planning Committee** – Ms. Sirdevan asked for member input in drafting the Comprehensive Plan. Dr. Waytowich suggested gathering data from Department. The report is due December 31. New members are welcome.

**Nominations and Membership Committee** – Mr. Clark reviewed current Board vacancies. A youth member, faith-based member, and Duval Superintendent designee need to be filled. Chief Tranquille agreed to assist in securing a faith-based member.

## **CIRCUIT 4 UPDATES**

### ***Duval:***

- Mr. Clark thanked Kristellys Zolondek of Lutheran Services Florida (LSF) for participating in the meeting. He noted LSF is the regional managing entity for mental health funding for the Department of Children and Families.
- Ms. Walker announced she is with Bays Florida, a juvenile diversion alternative program contracted with DJJ. Since their first referral in February, the program has a 90% success rate.
- Ms. Steverson Gwen noted the detention population is high at this time. JDAI is addressing this issue.
- The Duval County School Board is submitting a grant which funds will be used to train school personnel to detect and respond to mental illness in children and youth. Dr. Waytowich announced the System of Care is a partner and will address training.

### ***Clay:***

- Mr. Pimentel noted the costs are high for juvenile detention centers and the county is monitoring this issue. Mr. Clark stated this is an important issue that the Board should consider taking a position on at some time in the future.

### ***Nassau:***

- No report

In closing, Mr. Clark asked members to submit announcements for the Secretary's weekly newsletter. He also announced the State Advisory Group will be in Duval County July 15-16. He asked members to consider attending as it is an opportunity for the public to speak before this group on funding issues. Mr. Clark announced a meeting location is needed for the October meeting. Please contact his office if you would like to host the meeting.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42am on a motion from Ms. Woodford and a second from Mr. Hills.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Pimentel  
Secretary, Circuit 4 Advisory Board