



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Rick Scott, Governor

Wansley Walters, Secretary

Detention Cost Share Workgroup July 27, 2011 Minutes

Attendees:

Commissioner Wexler, Broward County
Wayne Appleby, Sarasota County, Sarasota
Linda Brehmer-Linosa, Orange County
Tim Burnes, Pinellas County
Sarrah Carroll, Florida Association of Counties (FAC)
John Wayne Smith, FAC
Jan McCloud, Hillsborough County
Commissioner Sally Heyman, Miami-Dade County
Jess McCarty
David Baldwin
Danielle Lipow, Casey Foundation
Tanya Washington, Casey Foundation
Secretary Walters, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)
Robert Woody, Deputy Secretary, DJJ
Christy Daly, Chief of Staff, DJJ
Beth Davis, DJJ
Julia Strange, DJJ
Mark Greenwald, DJJ
Theda Roberts, DJJ
Jason Welty, the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget

The meeting opened at 10:00 a. m. Secretary Walters shared goals for the work group to address. She apprised the group that the Department has prepared a legislative budget request for \$2.7 million dollars to increase the General Revenue appropriation and decrease the Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund in order to align the budget split with the actual utilization split. She encouraged counties to advocate for this funding with their legislative delegation and county stakeholders.

Mark Greenwald reviewed secure detention admissions and utilization for the past 10 years. Beth Davis discussed county costs associated with stays in secure detention resulting from violations of probation (VOP) and failures to appear (FTA). Much discussion took place among the group on how to reduce those stays. Secretary Walters shared that the Department will become much more proactive in assisting youth to make their court date. The Department is also working with judges to allow the Department 24 hours to get the youth to court before a youth is charged with FTA. Danielle Lipow encouraged the counties to reach out to judges so they understand the implications of these charges. Commissioner Heyman suggested that the agency provide counties with the specific charges for each VOP and FTA. Mark Greenwald explained that the Department

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The mission of the Department of Juvenile Justice is to increase public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention, and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth.

does not currently have functionality in the Juvenile Justice Information System to capture this data. The counties were provided information on how the detention budget reduction that took effect in July affects each county's share of cost for secure detention.

Linda Brehmer-Linosa distributed suggestions from the Orange County public defender on ways to improve secure detention. Many of the suggestions are under consideration by the work group.

Secretary Walters led a discussion of statewide implementation of civil citation. Commissioner Heyman spoke of how the success of the Miami-Dade program led to increased county funding for alternative programs. Secretary Walters stated equitable funding for the counties will reduce the county's share of cost and that investment of a fraction of those savings would fund front-end alternatives in each county. A summary of alternatives to detention developed by the Casey Foundation was provided to the workgroup.

County representatives were encouraged by the Department's actions and plans for systemic juvenile justice reform. The Department will reach out to county managers to encourage each county to work with the department on juvenile justice reform including alternatives to detention and civil citation.

The option for counties to take over all detention center operations was discussed. It was the consensus of the group that most counties do not want to operate secure detention but would like input into their operation since counties provide the majority of the funding. Linda Brehmer-Linosa suggested that the state pay for all detention costs and counties fund alternatives.

Commissioner Heyman suggested a glitch bill be developed to correct some of the concerns associated with SB 2112 that passed this year allowing counties to operate facilities without adherence to the Department's established rules for secure detention operations. Linda Brehmer-Linosa pointed out that counties, unlike the state, are not immune from liability, which should be considered by counties deciding to operate centers. John Smith suggested that Senator Alexander may be amenable to a glitch bill. FAC members will develop language to submit to the Department for review.

Sarrah Carroll suggested that changes be made in juvenile justice boards and councils operations and that youth who don't score for detention on the detention risk assessment instrument (DRAI) should be prohibited from being court ordered into secure detention. Danielle Lipow commented that the Department can work internally so that the DRAI more accurately scores youth. Secretary Walters committed the Department to work with the Casey Foundation on the DRAI.

Secretary Walters voiced appreciation that the counties are working with the Department on these issues. As the Department implements front-end, community-based services, it is vital that local communities take the lead in developing alternatives and interventions for their youth. As the Department develops reform ideas, they will be presented to the work group.

A subcommittee will consider juvenile justice boards and council issues. Deputy Secretary Woody, Assistant Secretary Finnie, Commissioner Wexler and Tim Burnes will serve on the subcommittee.

Tim Burnes discussed the Pinellas County Juvenile Justice Collaborative.

The next meeting will be a conference call in mid-September.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p. m.