

JUVENILE JUSTICE BOARD

CIRCUIT 10

Serving the Youth of Polk, Highlands, and Hardee Counties

Meeting Documentation

| Type of Meeting | Meeting Date and Time | Meeting Location | Meeting Chair | Members Present |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Board Meeting | Monday, April 14, 2014 3:00pm | DCF Bartow Service Center | Julia Hermelbracht, Chair | See Attached Sign-In Sheet |

| Agenda Item | Discussion / Report | Outcome / Action Plan |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Call to Order | 1. Meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Julia Hermelbracht. | 1. No action-procedural |
| 2. Welcome and Introductions | 2. Julia Hermelbracht welcomed members and completed introductions by all in attendance. | 2. No action-informational |
| 3. Approval and Acceptance of the Minutes | 3. Motion to accept minutes by Glenn Parkinson with Kristin Embree making the second motion with all members accepting them. Note: correct spelling of Robert Hirdes name. | 3. No action |
| 4. DJJ Membership | 4. Nancy Langston left Peace River Center. | 4. Outcome- Nancy's replacement will be the person who takes her place. |
| 5. DJJ Presentation | DJJ – Youth Ambassador Nominations A.) Julia Hermelbracht provided requirements for the Youth Ambassador nominations. These are youth who have successfully changed their lives after leaving DJJ | A.) Outcome- Julia read a nomination for a young man who was on probation in 2005 but has now |

supervision. Julia read a nomination for a young man who was on probation in 2005 but has now graduated from college.

B) Julia presented information on the Florida Youth Commission Advisory Group. This is a diverse group of 20 youth selected from every area of the state. They act with the Florida Youth Cabinet. Youth must be between 13 and 18 years of age during the selected school year. They cannot turn 19 during the school year. Youth do not necessarily need to be involved with DJJ. They will attend a monthly conference call via Skype and will go to Tallahassee 2 to 3 times a year.

6. Updates

DJJ – Updates

Probation- Jennifer Haynes spoke of a new training program that will begin with the new school year. The program is called Effective Practice in Community Supervision (EPICS) and JPOs will be trained on these interventions. The JPOs will be taped in order to have feedback provided to them. This training is to be used with moderate to high risk youth. The purpose of the training is to provide youth with the “right service at the right time.”

Probation- Jennifer Haynes provided information regarding youth in diversionary programs. Teen court cases do not go through probation. If the youth is on probation, an assessment is made and the JPO follows the case. They also make recommendations. Bay Area Youth Services (BAYS) was instrumental in the development of the Intensive Delinquent Diversion Program. They also helped this program transition to the new Juvenile Diversion Alternatives Program (JDAP). This program has 72 slots available and is a more intensive program. There is also Paxon, a day treatment program, that has 30 slots available. Another program, Redirections, offers in-home cognitive behavior therapy. These programs are designed to keep youth from going to a residential program. If a youth picks up new charges, a multi-disciplinary staffing is held to

graduated from college.

B.) Outcome- Applications and further information can be obtained from Crystal.

No action-informational

No action-informational

determine if they should enter into a commitment program. Glen Parkinson, Director, George Harris Youth Shelter, spoke to the difference between residential and non-residential placement at the shelter. Non-residential is for those youth who are truant. The residential placement is for those youth who are victims or are involved in domestic violence cases or who may be in danger of being homeless. If a youth is in a "lockout" status, whereby the parents won't take them back, a staffing is held to determine the best placement for them.

Residential – Thomas McFayden, Regional Director, continued the discussion on the staffing process when it involves commitment. The staffing process is based upon a risk system. Comprehensive evaluations for mental health, as well as, social and academic assessments are considered. There are overlay services to meet the needs of the youth. JPOs and staff meet and recommendations are made to the court. Since 2009, commitments have gone down. Also, the referral rate has gone down as well. There were 7,500 beds available statewide years ago but there are now only 2,000 beds available. After the commitment, and a youth is placed on conditional release status, resources are put into place to help them once they are released.

Detention - Major Gray gave updates as to the number of youth in Pinellas County that are from Polk County. To date, there are 7 youth from circuit 10. Additionally, youth from Manatee County were placed in Pinellas due to a incident there. In other updates, the painting project is almost completed. Additionally, Major Gray reports having obtained a grant for a greenhouse project. Two officers are in charge of working with the youth to take care of the plants and even using what is grown for cooking purposes. They will also bring in teachers to begin working with the youth on their culinary skills. Furthermore, the therapy dog project has adopted a puppy. An officer will have the dog on site daily for the youth and then take it home at night.

No action-informational

No action-informational

No action-informational

7. Updates

Committee Updates

School Based Committee:

Jim Maxwell indicated that the school board designed a committee for child abuse prevention. Also, the code of conduct is being revised as to how to handle infractions. In another update, resources for youth coming to school being prepared socially are dwindling. In the past, this has helped prevent the "pipeline to jail."

Faith Committee:

This committee will reconvene. There has not been a meeting since the summit.

Prevention Committee : Julia Hermelbracht gave out a handout of Prevention Services from Tina Levene. Also, information on Big Brothers/Big Sisters was given. There is a program that matches youth ages 5-13 with a mentor. If the youth is 16 years of age, they are released from the program unless they have been matched with a mentor. Most of the youth are boys that are from a home without a father. Referrals can come from anyone not just DJJ. Additionally, the program is always looking for volunteers. Grant requirements include income requirements, particular zip codes and being in the DJJ system.

Crossover Youth Committee:

There was no report. Julia explained crossover youth. These are youth who have both DJJ and DCF involvement. Crossover youth are staffed right away in an effort to prevent them going any further in either system.

General Committee Comments:

Julia explained that the advisory board has had committees in the past. Can we define what our board should be active in? Previously, there have been the following committees:

Faith Committee: D. Aguilar resigned as the chair; therefore, a new chairperson is needed for this committee. It should also include Hardee and Highlands counties.

No action-informational

No action-informational

No action-informational

No action-informational

Action Item: Let Julia know what your interests are for the board and DJJ.

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| | <p>School Committee: Would like to have members in addition to school board members.</p> <p>Cross Over Youth Committee: Do we still need? It is running well.</p> <p>Disproportionate Minority Youth Committee: Corey Stallworth is the liaison for probation. Would like to start committee again?</p> <p>Law Enforcement Committee: Possible new committee to look at trends?</p> <p>Julia asked if everyone thought that DJJ could write up synopsis of committees and give to the board members for consideration?</p> <p>Announcements/Questions/Public Comments:</p> <p>Announcements:</p> <p>Julia Hermelbracht announced April is Child Abuse Prevention month. If any member(s) can be involved, please contact Julia. A resource guide is also available. Julia gave pinwheels to all members.</p> <p>Julia stated that the annual report will be due at the end of June 2014. Julia gave out a handout with information.</p> <p>Julia stated that the comprehensive plan will be due at the end of the 2014 calendar year.</p> <p>Glen Parkinson announced a 5K run at Bok Tower on May 3, 2014 at 7:30 a.m. Sponsored by Heartland for Children. If parents call regarding a jail tour for their child, they should be directed to Teen Court as they do a tour once a month.</p> <p>Youth for Christ announced a show at Branscomb Auditorium at Florida Southern College, April 22, 2014. This is a free show and stars 12 children from the same family</p> <p>Tom McFadyen announced a Partnership Meeting at Drug Court on April 16, 2014 at 2:00. The meeting will be held in the 9th floor conference room at the courthouse. Also, May is National Drug Court Month. They will be having a graduation on May 16th at 2:00.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action Plan: Input for plan to be discussed at the next meeting.</p> |
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Corey Stallworth, Circuit 10 Representative for DMC announced the possibility of a town hall meeting in May. They are tasked with reaching out to the NAACP, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, sororities and fraternities.

Question:

School related question as to the existence of mentoring programs through the school board? Jim Maxwell responded by saying there are mentoring programs specific to each school.

What is happening regarding gang reduction? And, who should be called if a youth in either system identifies with a gang?

PCSO has a Gang Unit. Detective Matteo is over the unit. There are gang liaisons working with youth in housing areas. They take notes and obtain information. The reports are sent to Det. Matteo who then follows up with an investigation on the streets.

J. Haynes responded that JPOs can help ID gang members. There are monthly multi-agency meetings regarding gangs. There is also police communication regarding gang affiliation. State alerts are in the database and the JAC can help ID youth in gangs.

T. McFadyen indicated that youth are kept apart to avoid gang activity. Also, youth are assessed when coming from different geographical areas of the state.

Lake Wales Chief of Police Chris Velasquez stated that Lake Wales Police also work with Lakeland P.D. He also suggested school resource officers are instrumental in identifying gang members.

Question:

Is there a test for youth using K2?
A judge must order the test. There is only a stick test and that is not admissible in court. The test would need to be sent out to a lab. K2 stays in the system 96 hours.

No Action-Informational

No Action-Informational

No Action-Informational

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| <p>7. Adjournment</p> | <p>Public Comments: There were no public comments.</p> <p>Adjournment- Next meeting July 14, 2014, 3:00 p.m. at Department of Children and Families office, 1055 Hwy 17 North (corner of Hwy 60 and Hwy 17) in Bartow. Julia Hermelbracht adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.</p> | |
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| Public Comment | Guests | Materials Available |
|----------------|---------|--|
| 1. None | 1. none | 1. Meeting Minutes, Bylaws, and Handouts |

Next Meeting Date, Time, and Place: JJ Board Meeting, Monday, July 14, 2014, at 3:00 PM at the Department of Children and Families office, 1055 Hwy 17 North Bartow.

Submitted By: Julia Hermelbracht **Date:** 7-15-14