

**Bay County
Juvenile Justice Council Meeting
10/10/12**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Bryan Russell (Chairman, Boys & Girls Club), Ann Wing (Florida Therapy Svcs.), Michael Johnson (City of Panama City/ASAP), Connie Evans (Bay County Sheriff's Office), Heather Hart, (Bay RJDC), Susan Rodger (State Atty's Office), Amy Rogers (Gulf County United Comm Dev), Leanne Schmitt (Big Brother, Big Sister), Lee Stafford (Bay County Schools), Janet Hollomon (Anchorage Children's Home), Allison Wilkes (Anchorage Children's Home), Ivy Bacon (Big Bend Community Based Care), Donna Gunter (Washington Co DOH), Myron Guilford (Bay Count Sherriff's Dept.).

DJJ STAFF PRESENT

Wanda Jackson (DJJ-Probation), Lydia Breaux-Davis (DJJ Prevention), Marcia Reightnour (DJJ-Probation), Fred Womack (DJJ-Probation), Michelle McCaskill (DJJ-Probation).

ITEM #1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER

11:40 a.m. – Meeting called to order by Chair, Bryan Russell. Motion to accept minutes from September 5, 2012 meeting made by Mike Johnson, seconded by Susan Rodger.

ITEM #2 – UPDATES

Boys & Girls Club - Youth Leadership Program – Sgt. Myron Guildford with the Bay County Sheriff's Office has spoken to several of the groups a couple of weeks ago - really did well – youth are still talking about it. About 80 kids going through the curriculum – this estimates to about 20 kids per location. Right now, focusing on youth prevention and gang violence. The next curriculum module deals with youth leadership. Each module is approximately 8 weeks. Grant funded through June 30, 2013. Plans to speak with legislature in February about possibly making this a budget line item.

State Attorney's Office – Working with DJJ to create new programs – still in final stages – has not had a chance for finishing review yet. Personally spoke with Quentin Broxton – should be returning sometime around November 1st – he may be the one possibly attending the next meeting. When he returns, will probably take things very slowly until he can get re-acclimated.

Bay District Schools – Prevention Partnership Grant (PPG) – Bay District Schools was (1) of the recipients of the grant - have been working with project coordinators in order to hire a teacher full time – there was a slight reduction in funds which caused a little complication in hiring a FT teacher, but all of that was worked out and the person hired will begin by November 1st. Bay District is looking forward to getting the program started for the middle school students.

Florida KidCare Grant – Bay District Schools is going to provide districts that are going to be receiving these funds – this is a small grant that will allow them to hire an outreach specialist to work with families and get them registered through Florida KidCare to get those services to the children.

DJJ – Prevention – Statewide, there were approximately 86 applicants and at least (2) applicants from Circuit 14 that submitted proposals in response to RFI #V2036 “Invest in Children” – Programs Preventing Juvenile Delinquency in the State of Florida. Applications were due by COB August 17, 2012.

There is a Faith Symposium coming up October 24-26, 2012, at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando. Cost is \$75 which includes a variety of workshops and daily luncheon. Guest speakers include Papa Joe Bradford and Coach Tony Dungy.

The symposium is going to piggyback on the State Advisory Group (SAG) meeting. This will be the first meeting attended by the newly selected committee members. There are approximately 8 to 10 new members which include the (2) new members recommended by Bay County. The meeting is open to the public, but the public will not have the opportunity to speak – the reason is that this will be the first meeting of the new members and the focus is going to be training.

The Department of Juvenile Justice’s long range plan is posted on the agency’s website if anyone would like to review. There, you can review all of the goals and objectives. Please note that if you print the plan is discussed over 140+ pages.

Bay County Sheriff’s Dept. – Sgt. Myron Guilford is now in charge of community policing for the Sheriff’s office – housed at the Cedar Grove substation. Main focus is community outreach, as well as gang task force coordinator and neighborhood watch. Also in charge of the 376 sexual predators located in Bay County. This will be a new experience for Sgt. Guilford especially dealing with the predators and he expects to encounter a number of challenges. Happy to be involved and working with the schools and being community oriented in what the Sheriff’s office can offer the business community, DJJ or anyone else interested in youths.

Big Bend Community Based Care, Inc. – Ivy Bacon is the new Foster Youth Education Coordinator. The housing units located at 931 Magnolia Avenue are complete – 12 of the 24 units are restricted to those 18 to 24 year olds aging out of foster care; the remaining 11 are available to the public. If you know of anyone from the community interested in renting, please contact her at (850) 747-5898.

Big Brother/Big Sisters – Still looking for mentors – need approximately 22 for the boys. If you know of anyone interested, please contact her at the Bay County office (850) 763-5437.

Juvenile Detention Center – For the past few months, have seen the population at the center fluctuate – had a little over 60% population which means a good thing for the community. One of the primary focus in detention is to try to make sure that only the most serious offenders are in detention, and that kids who do not belong in detention do not stay there. Want to be able to utilize more community intervention and prevention programs – that is their current motivation.

Also, happy to announce they have a new director for all of the detention centers in the north region – The previous director had over 35 years of experience retired at the end of September. Last week, Ms. Dixie Fosler who was the Superintendent at Marion Detention has been named as the new director. This is exciting because she leads the State in trauma informed care and has actually had people nationwide may requests to tour her facility and to be able to view and observe the things they have put into place.

Another thing being done is the change to the inside atmosphere of detention to reflect a little softer, more of a trauma informed approach. It will look different than a jail and give the appearance of serving juvenile offenders as opposed to adults. Kids will have the chance to be counseled by officers, mental health, as well as accept visitation. There are a couple of therapy dog groups coming in twice per month to see the kids.

Working with probation in trying to secure a JAC. Knows that this is one of the Secretary's focus – to have a JAC in every circuit. There are pilots JAC in other areas to serve kids that not only screen out for detention, but kids that are engaging in risky behavior, not necessarily unlawful behavior .

Anchorage Children's Home – Hide House – focus is on providing safe shelter while working with youth to resolve immediate family problems. Youth and their families often need a short-term cooling off period – Hide House allows up to 21 days for this. Also other youth are placed there as a result of abuse, neglect or abandonment for up to 30 days.

Since Anchorage did not receive funding for the Street Outreach Program (SOAR), they will not be able to provide this service any longer. This program will be eliminated by the end of the month.

ASAP – putting final touches on the 21st CCLC grant with the Dept. of Education which will provide up to \$112k in funding to expand the program. Originally, this grant is awarded 3 years ago, but each year must be renewed. Other recipients of the grant within Bay County include the Boys & Girls Club, Oscar Patterson, and Cedar Grove Elementary.

ITEM #3 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

- DJJ Probation – 2nd Annual Open House 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon – 505 E. 11th Street – Friday, December 7, 2012
- Circuit 14 Children's Forum – Children's Home Society – 9:00 a.m. - 914 Harrison Avenue - Friday, October 12, 2012.
- National Faith Symposium 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, FL 32809 – Wednesday, October 24 through Friday October 26, 2012 – Cost \$75 includes workshops and daily lunch. Speakers include Papa Joe Bradford & Coach Tony Dungy.

ITEM #4 - ADJOURNMENT

12:25 p.m. Motion to adjourn meeting - next meeting scheduled for November 7, 2012 at the Cheese Barn, located at the old Sonny's BBQ on Hwy. 390.