

Putnam County Juvenile Justice Council

Tuesday, November 8, 2011 - 3:30 PM

Juvenile Crime Prevention Office

113 Putnam County Boulevard, East Palatka, FL 32131

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Sherry Russell (PCHD); Brad Skelton (PCSD); Michelle Garner (JCPO/PCSO); Trish Ditto (JCPO); (PCADC); Alice Beutien (JCPO); Ronda Harris (PSJBHC); Cindy Starling (CDS); David Kerr (DJJ); Lynda Tarus (White Foundation); Diane Weller (DJJ); Chris Glymph (PCADC)

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:37 p.m. by Chair, Sherry Russell.
2. Welcome & Introductions were made by Chair, Sherry Russell.
3. Minutes of the October 11, 2011 meeting approved with corrections. Motion was made by Brad Skelton to approve the minutes and seconded by Trish Ditto. All approved.
4. Council Business
 - **Circuit 7 Update** – David Kerr
 - The Civil Citation RFI opportunity for \$35K was due on October 11, 2011 – which was the date of the last council meeting, is still out there. Still negotiating, but is moving forward.
 - The 10-15 Electronic Monitoring slots are all going to West Volusia first, as they already have a system in place. They will be coming to Putnam County in the future.
 - The Georgetown University Project has been approved and signed by DJJ and DCF. It was targeted for Volusia County, but will be utilized in all 4 counties in our circuit. Further explained the purpose and how it is inclusive to all agencies that are involved with “cross-over” youth in foster care.
 - Legislative session begins in January instead of March. Optimistic about all things related to probation. Governor Scott favors probation and is very supportive. Has a good feeling about probation. Hopefully DJJ will not experience the same level of impact as they did last session.
 - **PCDJJ** - Diane Weller
 - Had two staff attend the prevention conference in St. Petersburg. Thankful to the Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition and the Putnam County School Board for the financial support given for them to attend and the strong collaboration amongst agencies. Training at the conference was professional and excellent. While in attendance at the conference, Ms. Massey won four tickets to Wild Adventures.
 - Office is running smoothly. They are fully staffed. Caseloads are rolling well and very manageable.
 - **Committee Reports**
 - Faith Community Network Initiative & Steering Committee - Dietrich Champagne

- No report.

- **Other Business**

- Prevention Plan

- Prevention Plan: The Prevention Plan was emailed to everyone on the council two months ago, asking for edits and corrections. Sherry Russell stated that she has received some via email and forwarded those corrections to Trish. It was agreed that we would change the dates on the Prevention Plan to 2012-2015. A motion was made by Michelle Garner to approve the Prevention Plan with corrections and seconded by Alice Beutien. All approved.
- Quarterly Reports (new): Circuit Board Chairman Cheryl Massaro asked our council to start submitting Quarterly Reports to board at the Circuit Board Meeting. These would be compiled to construct the annual report more easily. Sherry Russell started the report for July – September, pulling from the previous meetings and asked for input from those present. Suggestions included Cheryl Massaro’s visit, the yearly publication from the Juvenile Crime Prevention Office, the acquisition of the St. Augustine mental health contract by Putnam Behavioral Healthcare, information regarding BEST (Beasley Educational Support Team), that our meetings are well attending, the formation of our on-going Re-Entry Board, which is considered a sub-committee of the council. Sherry has already emailed her our membership list.

5. Circuit 7 Juvenile Justice Council Board Meeting Update

- **Next Board Meeting:** Flagler County Government Service Building, November 18, 2011; 3rd Floor; Superintendent’s Conference Room, 2:00 pm
 - Trish Ditto and Sherry Russell to attend.
 - Dianne Weller will present the results of the B.E.S.T. (Beasley Educational Support Team) to the board as planned, as Cindy Starling will not be able to attend.
- **Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Meeting:** Flagler County Government Service Building, November 18, 2011; 3rd Floor; Superintendent’s Conference Room, 12:00 pm
 - Sherry Russell and Trish Ditto will attend.
- **Circuit Board Members:** Chair Sherry Russell, Trish Ditto and Cindy Starling. Harry Hutchens, III as alternate.

6. Agency Sharing

PSBHC/ Drug Awareness– Ronda Harris

Not much to report. Met the new COO for Putnam-St. Johns Behavioral Healthcare last week. New COO, Shirley Holland has a lot of new ideas, and has offices in both the Putnam and St. Johns’ locations. A lot of good changes coming, as well as additional services to be provided.

Drug Awareness: is up and running. Concerned that our youth are sicker than ever in this county. Stated that after doing home visits, she can understand why youth are in their present condition. However, she is helping them one at a time. Continues to move forward, but it seems it is getting tougher every year. Ronda stated that she would like to see a therapist and substance abuse therapy in all the high schools and has suggested this to PSJBHC’s COO.

The Fall Fling Lori Milam hosted was awesome. A lot of youth and families, with estimates of over 500 in attendance. Appreciative toward the great collaboration from community partners. Community partners had booths and school nurses performing hearing and vision tests.

- Sherry Russell sent accolades from the council to Lori Milam on a job well done!
- David Kerr suggested inviting PSJBHC's new COO Shirley Holland to the council. Sherry Russell will email her an invitation to attend future meetings.
- Diane stated she loved the cotton candy given by CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services and would like to see that again next year.
- Cindy Starling stated that they borrowed the candy machine from the school district. Their booth theme was "Life is Sweeter Without Drugs" and even though their wooden cotton candy display was large, it was covered with the signed, drug free pledges.

White Foundation – Lynda Tarus

Currently have 15 active kids in commitment. Discussion regarding a specific youth ensued.

DJJ – Diane Weller

Nothing else.

CDS - Cindy Starling

Expressed gratitude for the opportunity given by the Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition to send her non-residential CINS/FINS counselor to a Truancy Workshop.

Wanted to follow-up from her statements during our last council meeting regarding the Prevention Conference she attended. She had stated then she would be giving information she gathered as it was made available. She brought copies from the Sarasota County Prescription Task Force, including the proclamation used and other references. Copies are also available on-line. E-FORCE's contact information, next meeting dates and website provided in a handout. Excited to have the information and wanted to meet with Chris Glymph of the PCADC to present him with her findings.

CDS has two new flyers, which she passed out to the council.

Further stated that she is having an influx of TANF referrals that are related to Prescription Substance Abuse. Has seen this while staffing cases and stated that removal of youth from their homes is greater due to drug addicted parents. This is totally out of control.

Shelter beds are filling, but still have beds available.

JCPO/DA – Trish Ditto

Expressed gladness to have the Prevention Plan completed.

Drug Awareness is going well, but they still need referrals.

-Sherry Russell expressed a job well done on the prevention plan to Trish with help from Alice and Michelle.

PCSD – Brad Skelton

Stated that our PCSO Police Athletic League in conjunction with the 21st Century After School Program brought home four state titles in boxing, and one state championship belt. Expressed it was great to show the skeptics who worried about boxing being too violent the positive side.

Things in Project Praise going well.

Unsure what the new counselors hired for the new school board grant will be doing. Expressed that he wishes they could have been licensed therapists instead.

-Cindy Starling stated that licensed therapists are hard to find.

-Trish Ditto stated that Taurean Wilson, formerly of the JCPO was hired as one of the counselors.

JCPO/PCSO/Creating Lasting Family Connections/S.W.E.A.T. – Michelle Garner

Facilitated CLFC at BMS today, which was extremely good and very gratifying to hear the youth stating that their CLFC training has helped them. Expressed to the council that several youth had success in using the skills taught to them to get out of a violet situations.

Also spoke this date with the Principal and Assistant Principal at BMS, which expressed gratitude and accolades to CLFC Michelle Garner and Tracy McNeal on improved student behavior amongst their sixth grades students. Was asked to keep up the good work.

Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition – Christ Glymph

Immediately welcomed by Sherry Russell. Grateful for the invite to attend, would be in attendance from now on. Next Thursday will be one month that he has been with the PCADC. Wants to take them the next level, “step it up” and further solidify the coalition by getting a “grass roots” community effort going.

Passed out a flyer for Quit Smoking Now. Is still the representative for Putnam County for this initiative and is also teaching the program. States that is hard to get juveniles to participate in cessation programs or to make a commitment. Classes for the Quit Smoking Now are held on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 – 7:00 pm, November 15th through December 20th at Putnam Community Medical Center in the Butler Building Conference Room. Youth and Adults can attend.

-Sherry Russell committed that the Quite Smoking Now program is a fabulous program.

-David Kerr asked how the schools handle youth who get caught smoking.

-Ronda Harris replied that they are referred to the Drug Awareness Program, which is written into the code of conduct.

-Cindy Starling stated that she would like to have a program just for tobacco education, as we did in the past and reasoned that she didn't want to add youth who are using tobacco in with the hard core youth.

-Trish Ditto commented that even though youth are sent to Drug Awareness just for using tobacco, they often time test positive for additional substances as well.

Cindy Starling stated that they currently all go to Drug Awareness – which is our intervention level program.

-David Kerr stated that we may want to separate youth, as there are degrees of involvement. Stated that Volusia County has a substance abuse task force, with help from DCF, put on an event that got a lot of people involved (about 300) and generated a lot of energy. David will send the information to Sherry, so she can email it to the council. Further stated that Drug Involvement is the cause for 78% of families whose children are removed.

-Cindy Starling stated that the Putnam County Prescription Task Force sent a representative to the meeting David referenced. She stated that she has been telling the council each time how big the issue of prescription drug abuse is in Putnam County.

-David Kerr invited Chris to attend Volusia County's Substance Abuse Task Force, which meets on the third Wednesday each month. They are meeting this month on November 18th at 9am.

-Cindy Starling to meet with Chris to give him the information on E-FORCE.

-Chris Glymph was voted in unanimously as a member to our council.

7. **Next Council Meeting:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 3:30pm.

8. Motion was made by Trish Ditto to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Brad Skelton. Council meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Garner, Secretary