

# Putnam County Juvenile Justice Council

Tuesday, March 13, 2012 - 3:30 PM

Juvenile Crime Prevention Office

113 Putnam County Boulevard, East Palatka, FL 32131

## Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Sherry Russell (PCHD); Trish Ditto (JCPO); Alice Beutien (JCPO); David Kerr (DJJ); Sharon Miller (WorkSource); Cindy Starling (CDS); Diane Weller (DJJ); Vicky Buckles (SMA); Patrick Miley (SMA); Dietrich Champagnie (PCSD); Stephanie Maynard (White Foundation); Lynda Tarus (White Foundation); Lori Milam (United Vision Program); Sally Landress (CPC); Carl Coalson (SEDNET); Chris Glymph (PCADC); Marie Bagby (SAO); Hunter Conrad (SAO); Michelle Garner (PCSO/JCPO)

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. by Chair, Sherry Russell.
  2. Welcome & Introductions were made by Chair, Sherry Russell.
  3. Minutes of the February 14, 2012 meeting approved with corrections. Motion was made by Alice Beutien to approve the minutes with corrections and seconded by Carl Coalson. All approved.
  4. Council Business
    - **Circuit 7 Update** – David Kerr
      - Legislative session has ended, but he has not seen an official write up for the Department of Juvenile Justice. Probation took no hits in staff, which was the first time in years. Residential Commitment facilities statewide will be losing beds. No detention facility closures.
      - In circuit news, the substance abuse task force for Volusia/Flagler counties had a community forum with close to 400 in attendance in Volusia and almost 100 in attendance last week in Flagler. In Flagler, both the sheriff, Chet Bell of SMA and others made for a good representative panel for discussion. It was a great educational opportunity with the focus on prescription drug issues. There has been some talk of a forum in Putnam, but believes it would be something the council should consider supporting. Gave statistics for prescription drugs prescribed in Florida, ie: 96% of all Oxycodone prescriptions written nationally were written in Florida. There are a great number of pill mills in Florida. However, during the last legislative session there were major efforts to right this problem, with an emphasis on creating a database to track prescription drug prescriptions written. Purports that 80% of youth going into Foster Care are a result of parents abusing prescription drugs. Another part of the problem will be when there are fewer pills on the street as a result of new legislation. Crime may go up; we may see an increase in some people experiencing withdrawal, etc.
      - Electronic monitoring did not pass this legislative session. The pilot project was started in West Volusia. They currently have 15 units. The West Volusia project was started through grant funding. It would be difficult for both Putnam and St. Johns to have monitoring systems here, as both have cross-circuit areas. However, they may expand the electronic monitoring systems to Flagler County.
- Diane Weller stated that if the juvenile judge *court orders* a youth in Putnam County to

electronic monitoring, their parent would have to pay \$35.00 a day for this service. There may be a way to obtain a private provider; she has avenues she is pursuing.

- Some additional funding has been set aside that could be used for misdemeanor youth for services to keep them in the community, vs. a commitment facility.

▪ **PCDJJ** - Diane Weller

- Full complement of staff in her office. She has a good team, they are keeping up with their cases even with the upswing of referrals. Has received accolades from Superintendent Charles Parkins.

--David Kerr stated that he was proud of our local office and that Superintendent Charles Parkins complimented Unit 101 in Palatka with "excellent documentation".

- Has seen a rise in referrals. They have locked up a lot of youth. More than half of the population at the Alachua Detention Facility is from Putnam County. This facility serves 12 counties. The numbers have gone up as there has been a spike in juvenile crime. She attends a meeting at the Palatka Police Department once a week. Last week there was more discussion about juveniles than there was about adults.

- Youth Success Day: Last year the Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition was the primary funding source for the Youth Success Day activities. She will meet with Dietrich Champagnie to discuss the possibility of funding for this year's event. Since Youth Success Day no longer has an official date, the council previously decided we would celebrate sometime in April, as we had done in the past. However, no official date can be set at this time, until she has the opportunity to meet and speak with Dietrich. With the influx in referrals – mostly first timers, her office has been swamped. She appealed to the council for a volunteer Co-Chair for the Youth Success Day event.

--Dietrich stated that previously the Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition has funded the events of the week, but she stated that a conversation will be forthcoming to see if the coalition can fund events for this year. She is having her annual "conference" on May 1, 2012. Discussion ensued as to whether there should be two separate events, or coordinate to put the events together. This event usually costs around \$1,200.00

--Carl Coalson stated that they may be able to assist with funding.

--Diane Weller stated that she could meet with Carl and Dietrich to further discuss this possibility. They tentatively set a meeting for March 28, 2012 at the DJJ office at 11am.

--David Kerr appealed to Sally Landress of CPC stating that maybe her agency could further their involvement in Putnam County by assisting with this project.

▪ **Committee Reports**

- Faith Community Network Initiative & Steering Committee – Chris Glymph

- ◻ In preparation for the Youth Success Week event, he has already spoken with the ministerial association. They have compiled a list of students they would like to recognize, who have given back to their communities. The Greater Palatka Ministerial Association is already planning their agenda for a Day of Prayer which will be on May 3, 2012. He provided a copy of the agenda to the council. Morning Prayer will be at the St. James United Methodist Church with Pastor Don Hannah from 6 to 7 am. Flagpole Prayer at Beasley Middle School from 7 to 9am. 7x7 Prayer Service at the Putnam County Courthouse from 12 to 1 pm. Prayer Service at Francis Baptist Church at 4 pm and a Youth Prayer Service at Beasley Middle School from 6:30 to 8 pm.

▪ **Other Business**

- Quarterly Report – Sherry Russell
  - Already submitted. The next submission is not due until next month.
- Nomination Committee for Officers
  - Discussion commenced regarding the month we have elected officers in the past. Alice Beutien stated that the nominations are usually due in May, and voted upon in June. New officers would then begin in August. Sherry Russell stated that she would be stepping down this year, appealing to the council for those interested in chairing the council to consider volunteering. Volunteers for the Nomination Committee were garnered as follows: Dietrich Champagne, Cindy Starling, Diane Weller and Michelle Garner. They agreed to meet on April 30, 2012 at 1 pm at the DJJ office.
- Summer Meeting Schedule
  - Discussion commenced regarding the summer meeting schedule. Alice Beutien stated that in years past, we forgo having a meeting in July. After further discussion, Chair Sherry Russell made an official proclamation that there would be no Juvenile Justice Council Meeting in July.
- Meeting Time Change
  - Diane Weller proposed to the council that we change our meeting time from 3:30 to 3 pm. Thus giving those who come from other counties the opportunity to begin their commute more timely. She stated that we began meeting at 3:30 pm, after school was out, for those members attending from the school district. However, to date, we have only one representative from the school district. A motion was made by Dietrich Champagne to change the beginning time of the council meeting from 3:30 pm to 3:00 pm and seconded by Trish Ditto. With no further discussion, all approved.
- **Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Committee – Dietrich Champagne**
  - Has a group of African American adult gentlemen that are planning to get a group together to review Carl Coalson’s DMC Training. The group deemed: “Right of Passage”, would like to sit and talk about a plan for Putnam County. Their focus is protective factors and doing positive things. The direction they are planning to go is to focus on young people in trouble. They have already met a couple of times. Identifying questions to ask: When do we focus on youth in trouble? While at school or when they are identified by DJJ? So the ambiguity lies with: doing prevention, while at the same time, not giving up on those who are already in the system. Excited to see that African American men are stepping up, and to see black churches want to help. Discussion ensued regarding a MADD Dad’s group for Putnam County. She has two people, Mr. Oxendine and Mr. Watson, who would like to address the council later on down the line.

5. Circuit 7 Juvenile Justice Council Board Meeting Update

- **Next Circuit 7 Board Meeting:** Flagler County Government Service Building, May 11, 2012; 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor; Superintendent’s Conference Room at 2:00 pm
  - Trish Ditto, Cindy Starling and Sherry Russell to attend.
- **Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Meeting:** Flagler County Government Service Building, May 11, 2012; 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor; Superintendent’s Conference Room at 12:00 pm
  - Trish Ditto and Sherry Russell to attend.

- **Circuit 7 Board Members:** Chair Sherry Russell, Trish Ditto and Cindy Starling. Harry Hutchens, III as alternate.

## 6. Agency Sharing

### Stewart Marchman- Act Behavioral Healthcare (SMA) – Patrick Miley

SMA can help. They have a Residential Adolescent Program (RAP). The program lasts 3 to 4 months and is accepting referrals from Putnam and St. Johns. It is located in Daytona. SMA is hiring an adolescent therapist and should finalize their decision by the end of the week. The organization went through the ringer in the legislature, but got by with just a little skin off of the knees. Received a 2.1% cut in funding from the state. This will not impact their services.

### Stewart Marchman Act (SMA) – Dr. Vicky Buckles

Access to the RAP is going to be great. Putnam county has never really had that. She has identified a 17 year old who would like to share her amazing story of how she overcame addiction to K2. She is interested in sharing her story to a group, such as the council, or even going peer to peer. She feels this would have a greater impact if young people hear this type of story from one of their own. Further discussion ensued regarding this success story.

### JCPO/Drug Awareness – Trish Ditto

She agrees with Diane about the increase in referrals. She is seeing a lot of referrals coming out of Jenkins Middle School. Tonight is their last night of Drug Awareness Class. They will begin a new session next week.

### JCPO – Alice Beutien, Programs Director

Announced that the Putnam County Sheriff's Office Police Athletic League is hosting a kick-off event for their new mentoring grant, entitled "Battle of the Badges". She stated this event includes law enforcement and local firemen and could include DJJ, since they have a badge. This boxing exhibition event is free to the public. For this event, mentees will be the "trainers" for the exhibition. They hope to have the event at Palatka High School, but will announce the specifics to the council the next meeting.

--Lori Milam is now working in the JCPO, continuing her work in the United Vision Program and with the CLFC program.

### WorkSource Career Services – Sharon Miller

Everything is up and running. They have their advisors in place. Working with the White Foundation to serve St. Johns and Putnam County. Will be attending the circuit board meeting.

### CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services – Cindy Starling

Interface Youth Shelter almost at capacity. They are extremely busy and only have one bed available at this time. She is stressing again to the council that we have a big issue with substance abuse impacting our youth. K2 is a big issue and has resulted in a lot of youth going to the Emergency Room. She stated that she has sent kids in the past to RAP and has also used Gateway in Jacksonville. Stated that she was pleased to hear RAP is available to Putnam County youth. Their CARF accreditation is complete, but they have no results yet. Reports that there was good news for CINS/FINS legislatively; as DCF had limited cuts in this area.

### Putnam County School District – Dietrich Champagne

Superintendent Tom Townsend wants organizations and groups to feel comfortable in coming into the schools and supporting our kids. He wants the word to go out to the community that he is receptive to agencies going into the schools. He is happy with the BEST Program. They are working at duplicating that program at Jenkins Middle School, calling it the JEST Program and at E.H. Miller School, calling it the EEST Program. The superintendent's Student Advisory Council comprised of 180 students from middle and high schools met recently. They make suggestions to the superintendent regarding issues that students

face. They have consistently stated that substance abuse is an issue. This group met with Chris Glymph of the Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition along with parents in a recent meeting. Chris will speak more on this topic.

Lynda Tarus – White Foundation

Currently has 17 active youth, a lot of whom are from Putnam. They have been busy keeping youth under control.

United Vision Program – Lori Milam

UVP continuing on. Continuing to work with Michelle in the CLFC program. Excited to announce to the council that the Putnam County Resource Directory now has a live link through the Putnam County School District's web site.

Community Partnership for Children – Sally Landress

Numbers are creeping up due to the prescription drug abuse problem. Is unsure of legislative outcomes with regard to funding.

--David Kerr stated that those results came out today, and the CPC is looking at a \$280,000 reduction.

SEDNET – Carl Coalson

Is changing his name to TIC.... Mr. Trauma Informed Care. He will have completed training for over one thousand people by the end of the week. Even though Trauma Informed Care training is a small part of what he does, it is a large component. It is a critical piece. He would like more people to have this information and knowledge. Most people treat the results of trauma, without treating the issue of trauma. These horrible behaviors youth exhibit are their coping skill. These youth need intensive work.

Putnam County Anti-Drug Coalition – Chris Glymph

Is extremely busy. Is in the process of writing a grant for the STOP Project, which is Sober Truth on Prevention for use in preventing underage drinking. On May 1, 2012, the PCADC is hosting its annual Youth Leadership Summit. The School Advisory Committee will be attending the Putnam County School Board meeting, and may do a presentation. These youth impact their peers and have the power to do "good".

--Synthetic Drug Task Force is starting with an assessment piece. Taking in the numbers and the opinion of the students. From that information, they will develop the implementation plan. Legislative bill 1175 lists the individual item in synthetic marijuana. However, as soon as legislation passes, the recipe just changes, as people find loop holes in the ingredients.

--Is working with the United Vision Program to promote the Prom Initiative this year. Wants to make a huge push to get the message out there. Announced to the council that Crescent City has agreed to print an anti-alcohol message on their Prom tickets. Will be hosting Town Hall meetings two weeks prior to the Prom in each city the high schools are located. These meetings will be to meet with parents and get them thinking about prevention. He plans on giving out door prizes and again asking businesses to post an anti-drug message before prom. He hopes to especially target those businesses youth use for Prom. He also would like to get information out to those who favor social hosting where alcohol is provided. He will get dates for each town hall meeting soon.

State Attorney's Office – Hunter Conrad

Nothing to add at this time, but asked the council if anyone had questions for them.

--David stated that we appreciate the State Attorney's Office and thought their attendance is a good opportunity for the SAO to hear good information and knowledge.

--Diane Weller stated that Putnam County had good collaboration amongst providers. DJJ and the JCPO have a solid partnership. She is looking forward to continued collaboration.

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

CLFC is again receiving a great response from those who attend the training. Expressed to the council the CLFC training isn't just for youth, but also for adults and professionals. Agreeing with Carl, most people treat the symptoms or behavior of youth who have experienced trauma, and all the while not getting help for the trauma the youth has experienced. Agrees that any adult working with youth should receive Trauma Informed Care, so they too could recognize when a youth should receive treatment for trauma, introduce coping skills and therefore impact behavior. Stated that CLFC was great for adults and parents too, as it introduces a new way of communicating this message and offering coping skills.

--Gave an update on the S.W.E.A.T. program which has received a great number of referrals. Having to add additional work days to the schedule to accommodate the numbers.

PCHD – Sherry Russell

Announced that Dr. Farmer had resigned. Dr. Steven Harris has been the acting Surgeon General for almost a year. Current bill in the house for reorganizing the Department of Health. Is currently unsure of the impact this will have. The Tuberculosis Hospital will be closing as of January 1, 2013. They have been trying to close this hospital for years. Legislatively, there will be some reductions to hospital from Medicaid, and caps limiting emergency room visits. Otherwise, their organization did well.

7. **Next Council Meeting:** Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 3:00pm at the Juvenile Crime Prevention Office.
8. Motion was made by Sherry Russell to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Michelle Garner. Meeting was adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Garner, Secretary