

SAG Minutes 12/18/20

Members Present- Ned Chester, Gail Wasserman, Christine Thibeault, Colin O'Neill, Mike Freysinger, Tracey Horton, Bonnie Porta, Jill Ward, Jonathan Shapiro, Atlee Reilly, Regina Phillips, Bishop Steve Coleman, Chris Northrop, Debra Baeder, Judge Maria Woodman, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Page Nichols.

Members Absent - Abier Ibrahim, Tessa Mosher, Todd Landry, Megan West.

JJAG Staff Present- Linda Barry Potter (Compliance Monitor and Acting JJ Specialist)

DOC Staff Present: Anwar Whiting (RED and Credible Messenger Coordinator), Sonja Morse (Juvenile Data and Research Coordinator)

Public Attendees: Alice Preble, Kelsey Park, Betsy Boardman, Mary Lou Michael, Jess Mizzi, and Hashim Hallah.

Call to Order: 9:03am

Minutes: November 13 Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes, Christine Thibeault; Ned Chester 2nd the motion. **Adopted by Unanimous vote.**

JJ Specialist Report: Linda Barry Potter

- Budget: \$6168.20 was moved back to the 2107 AIT8 line. \$11,271.24 was moved back to the 2017 SIM8 line. (see budget spreadsheet)
- Migration to the new Federal system has caused all grants to be suspended while the help desk for Just Grants is trying to do a global fix.

Agency Presentations:

DOC (Colin O'Neill): Reported that there are no longer any staff cases of Covid at LCYDC. Currently, 23 committed youth and 8 detained youth are at the facility. Girls (3 total) will be moving to the STEPS program. STEPS is a staff secure transitional living program for girls located in a house outside of Long Creek. It's not a locked program. Serving girls in a normative community based setting. Working to have the program accommodate both detained and committed girls.

OCFS & DOC: Partnering to create Intensive Outpatient Treatment (IOP) for substance abuse that can be covered by Medicaid (section 65 of Medicare Act), and hopefully this will open up more options for kids both as treatment and as after care when stepping down from residential at Day One. Trying to collaborate with agencies to get some programs up and running. OCFS annual report is out: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/cw/reports/CW%20Annual%20Report%202020.pdf>

DOC Regional Care Teams were explained and discussed. Information can be found here: <https://www.mainejjtaskforce.org/our-work>. Judge Woodman welcomed training/presentation on the project for Judges. It was also clarified these teams are not to supplant other agencies interdisciplinary panels. Currently the JJAG has allocated approximately \$60,000 to support emergency COVID needs for youth in community and/or transitioning out of Long Creek. This is part of the JJAG 3-year plan objectives and will be revised later in 2021. USM/Place Matters and MCJPAL are working on a report that will describe the project, including how the

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money was used and related outcomes. Project has done trainings/presentations for JCCOs, Long Creek staff and some provider groups; very open to doing additional trainings/presentations to other stakeholders so everyone understands the project.

DOC data dashboard is being created for the website, along with other updates. The dashboard will show the youth are in the system and disaggregate by race and gender. It will also link to reports on recidivism and positive youth outcomes and any other initiatives we are working on. Sonja has been doing the lion's share of the work on this.

DOE (Jonathan Shapiro and Page Nichols): Reported on DOE's plan to reconnect with youth regarding attendance and engagement and will be kicking off a series of small group discussion around this issue. However, Page noted that for some populations the smaller remote classrooms are being successful. Other initiatives mentioned:

- SEL4ME Social Emotional Learning program. <https://www.maine.gov/doe/sel/sel4me>
- Connecting the Kids initiative. Provided hotspots and cell service contracts to youth in need this past spring. Shifting this to outdoor ed. Getting kids doing safe activities outside with other youth. DOE has partnered with community resources (Winter Kids and LL Bean) to ensure that all youth have access to the outside gear.
- School Safety Center: behavior threat assessment program piloting in Calais, Rumford, and Westbrook. Looking more at RJ practices with schools. Especially because it ties in with SEL curriculum. It's nexus to safety is that schools that have implemented it have great outcomes. Also helping CDC doing some contract tracing with schools. Delivering PPE to schools with state support. Needs funding for a program that will help unify school plans. Discussion with SROs around youth based policing program.

Youth Engagement Presentation: Claire Schroeder, Youth and Community Engagement (YCE), Cutler Institute, University of Southern Maine. Introduced by Mike Freysinger, Claire led a conversation about what authentic youth engagement looks like and presented a model with three facets: 1) youth investment, 2) adult alignment, 3) partner approach. Discussion about how JJAG might support this approach and utilize it to improve youth engagement internally, as reflected in goal 4 of the 3-year plan.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee (Jill Ward): Jill received an estimate for the new JJAG website at \$2000. Jill would like an ad hoc group to oversee the building of the website and maintain it. Need to look at whether Mike Freysinger can remain voting member given his new role. Committee will look at this and other seats that are open and begin to make a plan. Note that Governor wants more than one suggestion for each slot. Coalition for Juvenile Justice adopted several new policy platforms and those will be circulated to the full JJAG.
- Governance & Legislative (Christine Thibeault): First of these committee meetings will be in early January. Governance is set for Jan 4 from 3-4pm and Legislative is set for Jan 11 from 1-2pm. Introductory letters will be send from JJAG Chairs to legislative leadership. Cloture was today (Dec 18) and it is expected there will be many bills this session.

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- RED/DMC Committee (Bishop Steve Coleman & Regina Phillips): Bishop Coleman reported that that Committee has complete the RED plan and worked with Systems Improvement to incorporate in the larger 3-year plan; still working on the budget. The Committee also presented recommendation that full JJAG support DOC request for \$25,000 to support Credible Messengers by hiring a Family and Youth Engagement person. Discussion about sustainability and importance of Governance Committee work to establish process going forward for larger grants. The proposal was moved by Chris Northrop and Bonnie Porta 2nd the motion. **Unanimous vote to approve.**
- Systems Improvement Committee (Atlee Riley): Atlee walked members through the goals and objectives for each of the goal. There were no additional questions or feedback from the JJAG Board. Support for approving the draft plan with the caveat that we still don't have the solicitation from OJJDP and will modify as need to meet the terms of the solicitation. Ned Chester moved to adopt the draft and Chris Northrop 2nd the motion. **Unanimous vote to approve.**

Thanks to everyone for your work on this and for Atlee for leading the process! Happy Holidays, everyone!

Adjourn: 11:30am