

JJAG Minutes 05/17/2024

Members Present: Ned Chester (Chair), Jill Ward (Vice Chair), Megan Anderson, Renee Bernard, Chris Bicknell, Samantha Fenderson (DOL), Page Nichols (DOE), Jacinda Goodwin, Brody Haverly-Johndro, Morgan Hynd, Abeir Ibrahim, Tessa Mosher, Kelly Rackler, Atlee Reilly, Jonathan Shapiro, Christine Thibeault (DOC), Regina Phillips, and Christopher Northrop.

Members Absent: Judge Sarah Churchill, Bishop Steve Coleman, Sierra Dana, La Michael Gildersleeve, Ladi Nzeyimana, Tanya Pierson, Jay Philbrick, Bonnie Porta, Zubeyda Shute, Aaron Turcotte (DPS), Dean Bugaj (DHHS).

JJAG Staff Present: Linda Barry Potter (JJ Specialist), Douglas Sanborn (Compliance Monitor), Anwar Whiting (RED/DOC Credible Messenger Coordinator)

DOC Staff Present: Steve Labonte (RCA, Region 3), Kelly Hebert (JCCO) Kevin Mirecki (JCCO), Valerie Santagata (JCCO).

Public Attendees (via zoom): Alice Preble, Sarah Branch, Patricia Buck, Anna Schmidt, Liz Blackwell-More, Swathi Sivasubramanian, Jon Solomon,

Call to Order: 9:03am (via Zoom)

Welcome & Introductions (Jill Ward)

April Meeting Minutes (Jill Ward): Motion to approve by Regina Phillips; Christine Thibeault seconded. **Adopted 11 Yeas 0 Nays 2 Abstentions** (Atlee Reily & Abeir Ibrahim)

JJ Specialist Report (Linda Barry Potter):

Budget & Grants Update – No significant budget updates. RFA applications for community-based organizations serving BIPOC/LGBTQ youth have been reviewed and evaluated. Four awards are expected to be granted and will be released as soon as procurement approves the whole RFA package. A huge THANK YOU to Tanya Pierson, Luc Nya, Renee Bernard and Doug Sanborn for serving on this evaluation committee. OJJDP sent a notice this month regarding our youth SAG and system-experience member requirements, part of it was easily rectified by pointing out that Maine does have the requisite youth members under the age of 28. What we the JJAG is lacking is one more individual with lived juvenile justice system experience or someone who is a parent or guardian of a person with lived experience. Governance committee is working to address the issue and our funding should not be at risk, but we need to move a nomination quickly.

Native American Set Aside: Request from Jon Solomon, CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Border Towns, to use the set aside to take 10 indigenous youth (2 from each of Maine's 5 tribes) and one adult from each tribe to attend the Unity Conference in Portland, Oregon. Jill clarified the JJAG has historically set aside specific funds for Tribal youth above what is called for by the JJDPA and these funds have not been accessed in part due to delays brought on by COVID. Maine's JJAG set aside is \$17,300 (2021) and \$15,000 in (2022). The total cost of the conference will be approximately \$38,100.

- Motion to approve request by Morgan Hynd; 2nd by Kelly Rackler. **Approved 17-0 (unanimous, no abstentions).**

JJAG Minutes 05/17/2024

CJJ Conference: May 29-June 1, 2024 in Washington, D.C. Delegation from the JJAG includes Christine Thiebeault, Douglas Sanborn, Anwar Whiting, Renee Bernard, Brody Haverly-Johndro and Linda Barry Potter.

Save the Date: November 19-21, 2024 in Washington D.C. OJJDP Conference “Celebrating 50 years of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA)”.

Compliance Monitoring Update – Doug continues to work on visiting police departments and updating the Monitoring Universe for determining compliance with the core requirements of the JJPA. Doug, Anwar, and Linda visited Sanford, Kennebunk, and Ogunquit PDs last week. Doug also enrolled in and has begun the cohort training for the Compliance Monitoring Certificate which should be completed in about 2 months. Compliance monitoring visits will continue throughout the summer and Doug will be providing a more comprehensive overview of his role and related activities at the next Board meeting.

Grantee Presentations: Swathi Sivasubramanian, Catherine Cutler Institute, USM

Swathi gave an update on the Youth Engagement grant and presented the results of a survey of justice-involved youth in the Young People’s Caucus designed with Dr. Carter to provide some youth feedback and perspective for integration into the 3-year plan. Discussion about how to continue to leverage this investment and work with youth, recognizing it is time and resource intensive. See power point presentation for more details.

Guest Presentation: Liz Blackwell-Moore, Cumberland County Public Health Director

Liz was invited at the recommendation of Board Member Morgan Hynd to present on the Maine Recovery Council, Maine opioid settlement and efforts to address SUD in youth and young adults. See power point presentation for additional details.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee (Ned Chester & Jill Ward): Next 3-year plan writing team meeting will be June 4, 2024 at 7:30 AM. If anyone would like an invite to this meeting, please let Linda know. JJAG Members please have comments or requested changes to Dr. Carter by end of business on May 31, 2024. One \$5K grant request was submitted for DEI Training for Intercultural Community Center.

- Motion to approve request by Christine Thiebeault; seconded by Morgan Hynd. Regina Phillips and Abeir Ibrahim recused themselves from the vote. **Adopted 15-0 (no abstentions)**

R/ED Committee (Regina Phillips & Chris Northrop): Last committee meeting included TTA providers Victoria Chamberlin and Macon Stewart from Georgetown's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform who gave a presentation on their Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RR/ ED) training. They will also be supporting a community of R/ED Coordinators who will share what works and what didn’t work in their jurisdictions to find new ways to engage systems and people in this meaningful work. Also working on next steps with the Mindbridge training.

Governance Committee (Ned Chester & Bonnie Porta): Appointments are still with the Governor for approval. There are many other members who will need reappointment this year. The focus must be on finding at least 1 more person with lived experience or someone who is a parent or guardian to someone with lived experience.

Systems Improvement Committee (Jill Ward & Luc Nya): Probation Transformation: June 10 – 14, 2024. Maine was selected to attend the week-long certification training at Georgetown’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform in a partnership with Annie E. Casey Foundation. See announcement [here](#). The training will focus on improving probation other community supervision of youth involved with the justice system

JJAG Minutes 05/17/2024

to improve outcomes for youth who come in contact with the justice system. Team Members: Jill Ward, Chris Northrop, Tanya Pierson, Steve Labonte, Joe Hansen, Tara Chaisson, Betsy Bordman, Doran Wright, Emma Schwartz, Tim Gleason and his mother. Policing the Teen Brain trainings went very well, conversations about additional trainings and next steps to engage more law enforcement statewide. Also discussion about connecting with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (Darren Gilbert) to help think about providing greater access to this type of training.

Legislative Committee (Atlee Reilly & Tanya Pierson): Legislation that this committee was following made it to the appropriations committee where it died. The committee is taking the summer off but will return in the fall to talk about the next session and has asked for time on the September or October meeting agenda.

Youth Council (Jay Philbrick): The Youth Council continues to struggle with meeting regularly. There are ideas regarding partnering closer with Young People's Caucus to better support and maintain JJAG Youth Council Members. Brody Haverly-Johndro is going to the CJJ annual conference and hopefully will make some connections there that will jump start some ideas.

Agency Updates:

DOC (Christine Thibeault): DOC has applied to OJJDP for a grant for Transformative Leadership Vanguard for Long Creek staff, to improve work environment, hiring practices, and retention of line staff within the facility. Recent JCCO training was a success and featured Dr. Brian Lovins who will also be part of the curriculum at the Probation Transformation certificate. DOC also has been working with OJJDP to get clarity around sight and sound requirements at Long Creek.

DOE (Page Nichols): DOE announced 30 more schools are moving to the BARR model for the 2024-2025 school year, bringing the total 101 schools participating. 50 teachers went to national conference in April. Efforts focusing on recruitment and retention of teachers.

No other agency updates.

Next meeting is July 19, 2024 at 9am. No June or August meeting.

Adjourned 10:51am.