



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

James C. Bridgers, Jr.,
Ph.D., MBA
Acting Director

Commission on Juvenile Justice Meeting

Tuesday, July 20, 2023

Virtual meeting

CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT: Kimberly Alfriend, Bonnie Beavers, Carol Cichowski, Don Chisholm, Eddie Ellis, Tracey Friedlander Gerda Gallop-Goodman, Melissa Goemann, Michael Pinard, Erynn Penn, Joshua Pestaner, Kevin Redden, Tom Smith, Shuaa Tajammul, and Erin Whaley.

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT: Joanna Bonner, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Steve Neff, Jordan Satinsky, Brett Lonker, Nathaniel Tipton, and Carlotta Woodward

ABSENT MEMBERS: Elizabeth Emen, Ijeoma Okoro and Ebony Stoutmiles, Jonathan Scriven, Heather Sweren,

PRESENT EMERITUS MEMBERS: Carole L. Brown.

ABSENT EMERITUS MEMBERS: Chris Fogleman, and Wendy Pulliam.

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT: Diane Lininger

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting opened by Melissa Goemann, Vice-Chair of the Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice (CJJ).
- II. **Attendance** – Make sure to sign in and if you can't sign in because you are on the phone, please send an email to Diane.
- III. **Discussion**- Annual Work-plan
 - A. **Work on a proposal for a Montgomery County Juvenile Justice Center** - Establish an ad hoc committee to recommend a process, gather information and input from experts and other agencies, and produce a paper for the Commission's consideration.
 - The vision is to have a place to be like what a family justice center does. Whatever need a child or family member may need (medications, substance abuse training, i.e., a one stop shop)

Behavioral Health and Crisis Services • Child and Adolescent Outpatient Mental Health Services

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- A place to get what they need so they don't need to enter the justice system. Open to county residents.
 - Family Justice Center- best use was a place to bring multiple county/state services into one place. Juvenile Justice Center would NOT be a walk-in facility, one would have to have an interaction with LEO/First Responders first.
 - Carlotta Woodward- her recommendation is for a center that is an OPEN center and aimed at helping families/parents PRIOR to law enforcement involvement.
 - Carol Cichowski- her recommendation that is one-stop for referrals vs. an actual place for provision of resources.
 - Bonnie: Is there another county that has a similar center?
 - Bonnie made a motion to make an ad-hoc committee to discuss a juvenile justice center. It was seconded and approved unanimously.
- B. Identify budget priorities** to submit to the Health and Human Services committee of the County Council.
- Melissa- should the committee get involved earlier into the county's budget process. It could be in the form of a letter with recommendations.
 - Carol: this is one of our functions of this committee, thus we should try to tackle. The time to weigh in is in the fall.
- C. Identify and advocate for legislative priorities** through the work of the Legislative Committee
- Melissa: we will go ahead with our leg committee creating these priorities prior to the 2023 MD Legislative session.
- D. Select Speakers to inform the work** of the Commission.
- Melissa: recommendation that speakers be focused on this Juvenile Justice Center.
 - Frank: currently girls that enter detention they go to Cheltenham Detention Center. Potential visit to this center.
 - Jordan: Possible high-level summary of SROs involvement, etc.

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- Carol- publicly available data that is relevant to our committee's work. What can we do to get some of this key data to our commissioners?
- Agency members- what would that look like? 10 minutes each or 1 agency member per entire meeting?
- Melissa: It would be helpful to put on the agenda for latest school data vs other agencies.
 - Carol: It would be 5 minutes in the agenda as an easy way to keep commissioners briefly updated on what's going on in schools regarding juvenile justice issues.
 - School related arrests, school to prison pipeline, suspension numbers, Community Engagement Officers updates.
 - Steve Neff as MCPS liaison: This is possible if committee can provide specific data point questions.
 - Melissa- it would be helpful to just get the bi-annual report submitted from MCPS to MSD.
 - Carol- most relevant data related to the school-to-prison pipeline. For example, if there are certain schools that have much higher suspension numbers in comparison to similar schools.

E. Conduct at least one site visit to a juvenile facility.

F. Have members or guests provide periodic updates on actions and data relating to the Community Engagement Officer program, exclusionary discipline and school-based arrests, and restorative justice.

IV. Upcoming Meetings and Other New Business

- A. **August** – Do not meet.
- B. **September** – Virtual meeting – Secretary Schiraldi, Department of Juvenile Services will be speaking. Members should send questions they would like the Secretary to address.
 - Issue from the 2023 legislative session about DJS' ability to provide services for young people if they start in juvenile court vs. adult court.

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- Is DJS is properly equipped currently? Thoughts on restorative justice. Any practices that could be implemented in DJS?
- C. **October** - in-person meeting again. Speakers will be Carlotta W Woodward, Chief, Juvenile Court Division, Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office, Brett Lonker, Supervisor, Juvenile Division, Office of the Public Defender, Montgomery County and Frank Duncan, Assistant Regional Director, Metro Region, Department of Juvenile Services.
- D. **November** – Virtual meeting with a legislator from Maryland to discuss upcoming Juvenile Justice legislation.
- E. **Annual Report** – Members are needed to write sections of the report. Would anyone be willing to write about the meeting with the Judges or other meetings? How about on a topic that the CJJ has focused on?
- F. **Announcements from Members – Commission members have any announcements about events or activities?** No announcements
- V. **Meeting Minutes** – Minutes from June 2023 meeting were adopted and seconded by the Commissioners. The vote was unanimous.
- VI. **Motion to Adjourn meeting.** Motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous.

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