



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

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

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

**7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Meeting Virtually**

Agenda

7:00 p.m. I. Welcome – Melissa Goemann, Vice-Chair.

7:00 p.m. II. Attendance – Please write your name down in the chat section or if you cannot do that, please let Diane know vocally that you are here. You can also send Diane an email. **Please mute your microphone unless you are speaking.**

**7:02 p.m. III. Vincent Schiraldi, Secretary of Maryland Department of Juvenile Services-
Questions below:**

1. What policies or practices have you observed in Maryland that you think may be counterproductive in reducing the involvement of youth in the juvenile justice system and improving long term outcomes? Could you speak to relationship of exclusionary discipline to the school-to-prison pipeline?

2. Ideally, under what circumstances should young people be held in or committed to detention centers? What do you see as the appropriate role for detention facilities?

3. In what situations is a DJS referral the best option for responding to a young person's behavior?

4. What does DJS do well in your opinion? In what areas do you see opportunities to do much better?

6. What can be done to reduce the racial disparities in juvenile justice involvement? To what do you attribute them?

7. Youth with disabilities, especially those with emotional disturbance and learning disabilities, are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system. How

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well do you think we are addressing the particular needs of this population in Maryland's system? What would you like to see DJS do to better meet the needs of these young people and improve their long-term outcomes?

8. We are interested in keeping youth out of the juvenile justice system. What kinds of services and policies have the most potential for limiting justice-involvement and helping young people be successful? Do you have any advice for Montgomery County Public Schools or local officials on what we should be doing more of or differently to prevent justice involvement?

9. Have you seen any evidence suggesting that children are being arrested or referred to DJS who could have been better served outside the system and without contact with DJS?

10. What are the consequences for children in terms of their education, health, and prospects for rehabilitation of being detained, sometimes for months, awaiting a court determination as to whether they will be tried as an adult or returned to juvenile court?

11. Opponents of the bill to end automatic charging say that DJS does not have the wherewithal to serve children who are currently charged as adults. Do you agree?

12. What benefits would ending automatic charging of youth as adults have for children, families, and the community?

13. What is your vision of juvenile justice?

14. Through your work on juvenile justice issues over the decades, what is one innovation or practice that you have seen implemented in another jurisdiction that was particularly successful? Do you think such an innovation or practice can be replicated in Maryland?

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15. What have you focused on in Maryland since you assumed your position earlier this year? What holds particular promise for juvenile justice in Maryland? What do you see as your most significant obstacle(s) to realizing your vision in Maryland?

8:15 p.m. IV. Upcoming Meetings and Other New Business

- A. **October** - in-person meeting at 401 Hungerford drive, 1st floor conference room, Rockville, MD. Speakers will be Carlotta 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.
- B. **November** – Virtual meeting with a legislator from Maryland to discuss upcoming Juvenile Justice legislation. Diane has invited Senator Will Smith and Delegate Charlotte Crutchfield.
- C. **Annual Report** – Hoping to be able to vote on the Annual report at the October meeting. Awaiting articles from contacted members.
- D. **Announcements from Members – Commission members have any announcements about events or activities?**

8:30 p.m. VII. Meeting Adjourned

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