

THIS MEETING DID NOT CONTAIN A PRESENTATION

JJPOC Cross-Agency Data Sharing Workgroup

March 19th, 2025

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Web Based Meeting- Zoom

Attendance

Anne McIntyre-Laner
Brian Hill
Derrick Gordon
Eliza Halsey
Erica Bromley
Katie Breslin
Kelly Orts
Ken Barone
Kevin Neary
Martha Stone
Maurice Reaves
Mary Lansing

Mike Carone
Nateisha-LaShay
Nieka Thompson
Patrick Lakha
Pauline Zaldonis
Robert Francis
Scott Gaul
Sharmese Walcott
Stephanie Russo
Steven Smith
Victor Jones

TYJI Staff

Amanda DiPinto
Andrew Zhebrak
Brittany LaMarr
Erika Nowakowski
Paul Klee

Meeting Objectives:

During the March 17, 2025, Cross-Agency Data Sharing Workgroup meeting, the CCA provided updates on local Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) efforts and offered a debrief of the April JJPOC RED presentation. The group also discussed how to effectively utilize Charter Oak materials within the Equity Dashboard and broader JJPOC work.. Legislative updates included a review of Ken Barone's Equity Dashboard proposal. Additionally, there was a detailed update on the P20WIN JJPOC data request, including ongoing discussions with OPM and feedback to refine the research questions. The meeting concluded with an update on the Equity Dashboard.

Meeting Summary:

- CCA Updates on RED Efforts
 - There is a decrease in the quantity of delinquent referrals from Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, and Bridgeport, though black youth are substantially overrepresented in that sample. There's a noted increase in the number of arrests for carrying dangerous weapons, but a decrease in auto-thefts.
 - Regarding School Disengagement, all of the 4 urban metros struggle with high rates of chronic absenteeism. In Waterbury 50%, Bridgeport 33%, New

Haven 34%. Due to decreases in LEAP funding, the chronic absenteeism program is influx, and pose problems for staffing and solving resource gaps.

- A question is raised on if there are strategies that have been identified “on the ground” that assist with lowering arrest rates or improving issues with school disengagement
 - There is an auto-theft task force and program present which positively influenced the rates of breach of peace charges. As for the dangerous weapons, there is a need to identify a strategy targeting the root causes as to why children feel the need to carry personal firearms \
 - Additionally, there is an increase of diversion to local JRBs, as they using new methods in targeting youth populations that are traditionally funneled into the court system.
- Another question is raised regarding as the whether the lack of ISS rooms is a new problem, or an ongoing one.
 - It’s an existing issue, due to budget problems and staffing issues. SDE worked with Alliance to alleviate this issue by increasing staff availability. With other cities, it’s less consistent. It also presents a violation of the law, as certain criteria need to be met prior to sending a child to OSS.
- Another question is raised about how the current presidential administration’s policy directives affect oversight over Connecticut programs, which affect the availability for staffing, in addition to other school needs.
 - There is a discussion over using different strategies to acquire attention from state-wide services for this issue.
- Gaps, Services, and Training Needs – most major cities identify similar gaps and services. There are issues with accessing mediation services, access to alternative placements, and truancy due to cuts in LEAP funding. All are impacted by recent cuts and budgetary issues from urban school districts. There is also a necessity to train police officers for the 2nd shift, and improving information access.
 - A question is raised regarding sustaining diversionary strategies in response to funding issues.
 - There is a potential necessity for better screening practices, data collection, and coordination between different agencies interacting with youth.
 - A question is raised regarding training for police officers, as there is a legislative effort to coordinate the POST Council with officers working in JRBs. What is the timeline for this? Also, will truancy be eligible for JRB referral

- Charter Oak Updates

- Charter Oak met 2 months ago regarding the Equity Dashboard guidebook, and the workgroup is interested in discussing the next steps of its development, and how the information will be distributed.
 - There is a discussion about creating training material for the guidebook, and how to incorporate it into the equity dashboard website. It is possible to convert them to PDF format and list it on the Equity Dashboard, but for communicative ease, a user guide that prioritizes the context and critical information is preferable
 - A question is raised regarding on if the guide and dashboard will be used in conjunction with the work Ken Barone's work.
 - While the dashboard is useful for when he will engage in communicating with individual municipalities, the dashboard was primarily developed for public use.
 - There is a conversation about various options of where to place the use guide. It could be added to the CGA's JJPOC page, next to the Equity Dashboard, presented through OPM during a JJPOC Meeting, spotlighted during TYJI's annual conference, or directly engaging with municipalities coordinating with the dashboard.
 - An idea is raised about presenting a live tutorial of the dashboard during a JJPOC meeting and adding a section to the dashboard regarding reporting.
 - There is a discussion about who is classified within the general public, and how information should be tailored to the expected audience, especially regarding generating visual materials.
- Equity Dashboard Update
 - OPM experienced technical issues with visualization software in the dashboard, so there is a slight delay in the data currently presented on the dashboard, but this is resolved, and the visualization should be updated shortly.
 - There will be an effort to contrast data from 2019-2022 and 2023-2025 to reflect alterations from prior practices to emphasize increases in non-judicial handling.
- Legislative Update
 - JJPOC Bill is now on House Calendar, still making legislative progress. The bill would standardize Diversion Practices across Connecticut, it would also include DCF reporting to STARR program, chronic absenteeism practices, developing quality assurance frameworks, and allowing the CEW to appoint vacancies for youth in JJPOC.
- P20 Win Update
 - Due to the commonalities between the population JJPOC targets and the P20 Win Data Collection, there was a question regarding an information request for P20Win.

- . Question – Whether it's worth for the committee to put in the request, and what could the research questions could be. There are a handful of requests looking at JJ population in different ways, it may be worth tracking the requests and focus on avoiding duplicating work. Target and identify questions in the pipeline for DCF, DOC, and other agencies involved in P20Win . There are currently 4 targeting the JJ population

Next Meeting: July 21st 2025