



JJPOC Diversion Workgroup

December 13, 2019

11:00AM-12:30PM

Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

Meeting Summary:

- Update from subgroups:
 - Raising the lower age limit subgroup has recently
 - ii. ○ Group has taken a deep dive into data, specifically looking at kids under age 12.
 - FWSN Subgroup will
 - iv. ○ Continue to meet in order to implement changes in July of 2020.
 - Truancy subgroup will continue
 - Continuing to see what is working in different districts, with the northwest region interested in hosting attendance survey. They will also continue Continuing to have conversations about the referral process.
- Review and discussion on draft JJPOC Recommendations by the Diversion Workgroup
 - Recommendation on raising the lower age limit
 - Sue will draft some background language
 - The year was corrected from 2022 to 2021. Rec. A – change to 2021
 - Points 2 & 3 under recommendation A-There was discussion on the exceptions in the recommendation, which is not supported by the subgroup. The subgroup group is not interested in continuing to utilize court system in certain circumstances, especially due to competency. Doesn't make sense for competency in certain crimes/not in others of young children. There was further discussion on what would happen to a
 - Discussion was had as to whether or not there should be a carve-out for serious crimes
 - 3. From OCPD position, do not believe that there should be a carve out
 - 4. Question: what would happen to an 11 or 10-year-old who commits a serious crime and where they would go.
 - The workgroup members discussed including DCF specifically in the recommendation language, as well as (where would they go?) other services this young population would need.
 - There was a suggestion made to look at the competency statute.
 - If a motion is filed to assess youth competency, an evaluating team of 3 will assess child over a couple hours and deem them competent or not competent and restorable or not restorable.

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- There was discussion on Massachusetts's new system and how they do not specify carve-outs and their families utilized services more and were no longer concerned about going through a punitive system)
- There were two options proposed by the workgroup to be brought forth to the Executive Team:
 - Recommendation to raise the minimum age to twelve with the development of a plan
 - Recommendation to develop a plan with the intent to recommend raising the age to twelve in future legislation
- Recommendation on data and community-based diversion funding
 - There was discussion on separating the request for a data system and a request for community-based system funding. The language for requesting funding for community-based diversion system will be similar to previous year.
 - There was discussion on the cost to develop a statewide database and potentially utilizing DCF.
- The recommendation on truancy information sharing was ultimately removed by the workgroup due to the need for further information and discussion. Information regarding FERPA violation was presented, which also supported the removal of this draft recommendation
- Next Steps
 - December 16th Executive Committee Meeting
 - December 19th JJPOC Meeting
 - December 20th Executive Committee receives all draft JJPOC Recommendations

Next 11am- 12:30pm on January 3rd, 2020 at SDE