



## **JJPOC Diversion Work Group Meeting**

**March 6th, 2020**

**11:00-12:30 PM**

**State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103**

### **Meeting Summary:**

- Update on JJPOC Recommendations
  - Erica informed the members of the workgroup that all of the Diversion recommendations passed with minimal/no opposition from the JJPOC.
    - Raising of the MACR from 7-12 years of age.
    - Funding of a community-based diversion system.
    - Development & implementation of a state-wide data collection system for YSBs.
  - The workgroup was also informed of the other JJPOC recommendations that were voted on and passed.
- Update from Subgroups
  - FWSN
    - There have been ongoing edits to the FWSN referral form and parent guide, which will be finalized at the next meeting.
    - The subgroup discussed education of new process for YSBs and police departments, possible trainings
    - The current available services were discussed, as well as what types of services are available within DCF and ensuring there is awareness of these services.
  - Truancy
    - The SDE legal team is working to complete a form for parents to sign at the beginning of the school year that would allow schools to refer youth directly to YSBs if they are deemed truant. This would be a temporary solution to the barrier YSBs are having with obtaining a parental signature. It is planned that the form will be available at the beginning of the next school year.
- Discussion on Accessibility and Availability of Community-Based Services
  - Services Available and Open to Community
    - Discussion on services for youth who are at an immediate runaway/trafficking risk and homelessness.
      - Availability of temporary respite beds, potential DCF involvement, police options
      - A conversation between local YSBs and the local police departments will be needed to address these specific circumstances
    - Discussion on the Families First Act and how that could potentially impact services available to the FWSN population.
- Other

- Discussion on the DCF policy excluding juvenile-justice-involved youth from receiving for voluntary services. Although the original purpose for this criteria was to not duplicate services, the exclusionary criteria may not be as necessary and applicable now. This issue may be brought up to the larger JJPOC.
- Next Steps
  - The TYJI team will meet with the co-chairs in March to discuss the 2020 work plan.
  - The FWSN subgroup will send the draft police memo to Jill for review