

**THIS MEETING CONTAINED A PRESENTATION–DISCUSSION AND UPDATES**

**Education Workgroup**

**September 23, 2022**

**2:00pm-3:00pm**

**Web-Based Meeting-Zoom**

**Meeting Summary:**

- Introductions
- Andrew Clark and Dr. Meghan Peterson (Institute for Municipal & Regional Policy) gave presentation on the 911/211/988 Study that was passed into law.
  - Background/History of Study:
    - CGA created CT Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force (PTATF) in 2020
    - 13 PTATF-approved recommendations were voted into law
    - 911/211/988 study on call data sampling and analysis is part of House Bill #5420
    - New 988 emergency call line was included in this study
    - Information will be released in January 2023
  - Context of Study: Why now?
    - 240 million 911 calls are made per year in U.S.
      - In Connecticut 2,012,310 calls in 2021
    - 2.5 million National Suicide Prevention Lifeline calls in 2021 (now the new 988 phone line)
      - United 211 is used in Connecticut, 124,000 adult crisis calls in 2021, 13,762 youth crisis calls in 2021
    - Phone lines like 911/211/988 are the first point of contact between first responders and civilians and intra-community contact
    - The U.S. (Connecticut included) is in a mental health crisis that impacts everyone
    - Look into the role of the dispatcher and their role in connecting civilians and first responders
  - Goals of the Study:
    - Enhance public awareness of 911/211/988 and knowledge of roles each line plays
    - Improve public safety approaches through effective call diversion by tailoring response and follow up to call
  - Information on New 988 line
    - 988 was released in July 2022
    - 988 redirects to local mental health centers
      - Issue that phones calls are routed based on area code, if area code is out of state the call is routed to that state

- School crises are still being routed to 211
  - 211 call centers are processing 988 calls as well
    - 211 with direct and call 911 for caller when appropriate
  - 911 dispatchers now asking callers what service they need: police, fire, EMS, or mental health
    - New facet of dispatcher's role
- Process: study used a Mixed Methods Approach (Quantitative & Qualitative Data)
  - Numeric data used to address empirical questions
  - Used representative sample
  - Qualitative data used to address sociopolitical, policy ramification of empirical data
- Discussion: How can the education committee support this effort?
  - Helpful for this group for study to look at calls that originated from schools around 911/211 use. Impact of lines on children in schools
  - Unclear if study will be able to aggregate this data, but Andrew and Dr. Peterson will look into it
  - Numbers are important because of mental health crisis in schools right now
  - Past-proposed legislation was to look into ten opportunity school districts. Was told that information from schools would be available from the hotline, why proposal did not go through.
  - RED Workgroup is also working on this and have a similar presentation
- Amery Bernhardt (WCSU Center for School Safety and Crisis Prevention) gave update on the School Resource Officers Research Project
  - SRO Research Project created by Public Act #22-114
  - CGA tasked them to do research to bring back to Judiciary Committee by December 2022:
    - Determine number of SRO employed in the state
    - Funding mechanism each district uses to employ SROs
    - Develop metrics for assessing the efficacy of SRO (focus on interactions with students with disability)
    - Chain of command structure for response to school crises
    - Determine process for entering into a memorandum between school district BOE and SRO and public accessibility
    - Explore other issues relevant to study
  - They have submitted and received approval on proposal to WCSU institutional Review Board p
  - Mixed Methodology

- Survey distributed to superintendents, directors of special education, law enforcement agencies and SROs
  - Focus Group Study with focus on developing metrics on efficacy of SRO particularly in context of students with disability.
    - Still recruiting participants but to be launched at end of October
    - Looking for participants
  - Discussion:
    - Community engagement, are parents and family being engaged in this process?
    - This is a shared responsibility between administration, law enforcement and families
- Dr. Worthy (DCF) updated group on Oversight of Educational Services for Children Under Confinement
  - Started assembling team, at least partially complete and should be finished by end of October
  - All facilities are having monthly meetings
  - Starting to talk about expectations, accountability measurements for team with facilities
- Work Plan Updates
  - Data–Pulse Check
    - Ensure that we are educated on what the data says
    - Developing a plan with Cross-Agency Data Sharing Work Group that will provide everyone the November data report
      - Provides current status on juvenile justice recidivism rates, incarceration, and diversionary efforts and other supplemental data
    - Brian Hill and Maurice Reeves will give preliminary view on data parameters in October JJPOC meeting and will provide 2023 data plan that spotlights specific systems
  - Legislative Mandates: January 2023 Possible Recommendations
    - Suspension & Expulsion Committee
    - Alternatives to Arrest Committee
    - Commissary Committee
    - CEW
    - Narrow the focus of the recommendations to these three/four recommendations
      - There is a possible fifth recommendation on the say
  - Workplan is built off JJPOC Strategic Plan
    - Based on the four goals outlined by strategic plans
    - Workplan for Education Committee

- Put into place in 2019 to oversee educational services for children in confinement
- Erika recommends that oversight of educational services for children be merged into incarceration because there is duplicative work happening in order to consolidate work
  - Same presentations are being given in other groups, invite this group to attend those
    - 911/211 study presentation
    - SRO presentation
    - Discussion of studying urban trauma, not yet launched
  - Suspension and Expulsion is sending a list of recommendations this January
  - Rep. Walker mentioned that many work group members have voiced that there are too many work groups to get things done
  - Voiced support for consolidation but concern over merging education into incarceration.
    - Education group has valuable members with niche expertise, concern over losing group members voiced by other members
  - Education work group provides a nuance that is not always clear in the broader JJPOC work groups, feels that this group is needed, and the discussions are useful
- Compromise to possibly make Suspension and Expulsion and Education the same group