



JJPOC Gender Responsiveness Workgroup MEETING

January 25th, 2024

Web-Based Meeting – Zoom

THIS MEETING DOES NOT CONTAIN A PRESENTATION- DISCUSSIONS AND UPDATES

Attendance

Rep. Jillian Gilchrest	Eulalia Garcia	Sunindiya Bhalla	Beth Hamilton	TYJI Staff Brittany LaMarr
Jessica Elizondo	Krystal Rich	Abby Alter	Erin Williams	Paul Klee
Chyann Higgs	Sharon Green	Kim Selvaggi	Sarah	
Tammy Sneed	Christine Kendall	Yvette Young		

Meeting Summary

1. Introduction

2. Update on 2024 Workgroup Recommendations

- TYJI reported that the recommendations that passed were the following:
 - Public Act 14-217 Sec. 79 – insert (k): no later than January 1, 2024, there shall be the creation of a Gender Responsiveness Workgroup created in partnership with Trafficking in Persons Council (TIPC), responsible for: Creating a landscape analysis and conducting a gap assessment of gender responsive work in the state; no later than January 1, 2025
 - Define what is meant by gender responsive and what makes a practice gender responsive
 - Hear from youth, families, and communities directly impacted
 - Review national best practices – approaches, service types, and system considerations
 - Review past work and legislation on gender responsiveness
 - Identify gaps resulting from system/program changes.
 - Review existing work and practices on gender responsiveness among agencies and community providers
 - Review data, broken down by race and ethnicity, gender, age, location, and level of system involvement (type of offense/ judicial handling).



- Collaboratively develop a framework for reporting, collecting, and distributing police data on human trafficking.
- TYJI collaborate with TIPC and generate regular analysis and reports for data collected, received, and reported to TIPC or through JJPOC Gender Responsiveness Workgroup regarding human trafficking.
- Compile a set of legislative and or policy recommendations for JJPOC and TIPC to consider.
- Recommendations for improvements to the continuum of care that include trauma informed and culturally informed approaches, services, treatment, and permanency models for girls and include:
 - Continuity of clinical support across a continuum of placement/treatment settings.
 - Specialized treatment foster care for girls who have experienced sexual abuse and/or domestic minor sex trafficking, including children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.
 - Specialized training for direct care providers and treatment providers.
 - Consistent and constant source of support (e.g., peer mentor, therapist) for the young person.
 - Programs and practices that are developed with the input of sexual abuse and trafficking survivors.
 - Service and treatment setting options that specifically address the needs of children with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.
 - Examination of successful treatment/support models from other jurisdictions to inform service enhancement in CT.
 - Supports for youth who identify as trans or gender non-conforming
 - Diversion options through JRB or other diversion models
 - Quality assurance framework/monitoring framework
- The Gender Responsiveness Workgroup and Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Committee will share information on gender responsive practices and policies for youth with child welfare involvement.

3. Review ROCA's Project Plan

- Workgroup member explained that the next few months ROCA's plan is to identify the best gender responsive practices
- Workgroup member suggested to focus on one or two things to tackle to get them passed



- Workgroup member answered support for the workforce, leadership on pulling together state agencies to figure out some immediate problems, and long-term, system wide solutions
- Workgroup member suggested having focus groups
- Workgroup member pointed out that it will be good to look at what funding is available and how the funding for these issues is being used
- Workgroup member asked if everyone in the workgroup can think of data that could be helpful to their cause

4. **Review 2024 Workgroup Workplan**

- The plan was revised
- TYJI asked for members to think about who is not at the table that should. TYJI asked for the member to think about what knowledge are they lacking to then think about who they can bring to fill in that gap.

5. **Begin Discussion on defining Gender responsiveness**

- TYJI asked members to define the population they are working with. TYJI reported that part of the population are young girls who are involved in the legal system or are high risk. Additionally, it involves gender non-conforming youth.
- Workgroup member recommended that they get key questions to help guide them to define Gender Responsiveness

6. **Legislative Planning:**

- Discussion on the best plan of action for legislation in the 2024 Legislative cycle.
- Compile legislative and policy recommendations for JJPOC/TIP.

Next Meeting: October 26, 2023