

THIS MEETING DID NOT CONTAIN A PRESENTATION

JJPOC Gender Responsiveness Workgroup

October 24th, 2024

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Web Based Meeting- Zoom

Attendance

Beth Hamilton

Christina Ghio

Christine Kendall

Chyann Higgs

Erin Williamson

Hunter Clark

Jillian Gilchrest

Krystal Rich

Liz Sitler

Sheron Green

Sharmese Walcott

Sukhmani Singh

TYJI Staff

Brittany LaMarr

Erika Nowakowski

Paul Klee

Meeting Objectives:

During the October Gender Responsiveness Workgroup meeting the Special Gender Responsiveness Recommendations were reviewed and discussed. These recommendations were further refined in preparation for legislative review.

Meeting Summary:

- Review the Special Gender Responsiveness Recommendations
 - Each of the special recommendations was presented independently and discussed as presented. The presentation of the recommendations below provides a general overview of each recommendation but is not a complete representation.
 - 1. Enhance and require training for congregate settings/out of home care providers and enhance programming standards
 - Concerns about the vagueness of this recommendation were brought to the attention of the workgroup. Members of the workgroup are wary of making the recommendations too specific for legislative purposes, but this recommendation is considered to be too broad.
 - Questions arose in the discussion about what is considered trauma in terms of these training procedures and how can it be addressed appropriately.

- Ideas were proposed to the workgroup about including youth experiences in the service provider training(s), but additional concerns were addressed regarding confidentiality and appropriate methods of gathering such information.
- The workgroup proposed that the DCF training be presented and approved by the Gender Responsiveness Workgroup by October 1st, 2025.
- Explicit language was also requested to be included that specifically includes domestic violence and sex trafficking in terms of training.
 - The Gender Responsiveness Workgroup will create and approve the guidelines for this training by October 1st, 2025.
- 2. Enhance funding for contracted direct care/milieu staff in out of home care settings to support recruitment, retention of qualified workforce, and appropriate staffing levels
 - It was decided among the members of the workgroup to include language in the RFP that is both gender responsive and gender affirming.
- 3. Address need to increase existing services right now to decrease waitlists
 - Members of the workgroup came to the consensus that this recommendation should include explicit language regarding necessary funding.
- 4. Screening and clinical assessment tools will be reviewed by the Gender Responsiveness Workgroup.
- 5. Referral to multidisciplinary teams
- 6. Enhance capacity to provide individualized WRAP services to children in STAR/other out of home settings
- 7. Strengthen safety of out of home care settings
- 8. Consistent monitoring of specialized placements for overall accountability, including bi-annual updates to JJPOC from the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA)
 - This recommendation will include data collection.
 - There are concerns that there is a lack of available data points at this time.
- Due to time constraints, Recommendations 5, 6, and 7 were not able to be addressed during this meeting and instead will be addressed at the next meeting.
- Next Steps
 - Any feedback regarding the specific language used in the special recommendations should be sent to Brittany LaMarr by November 13th, 2024.



Next Meeting: November 7th, 2024

