



## JJPOC Incarceration Workgroup MEETING

AUGUST 21, 2023

1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Web-Based Meeting – Zoom

**THIS MEETING DOES NOT CONTAIN A PRESENTATION- DISCUSSIONS AND UPDATES**

### Meeting Summary

#### 1. Gender Responsive Subgroup Update

- The creation of this subgroup came from Tow receiving multiple requests from stakeholders to perform research specific to the needs of females within the justice system as well as addressing their concerns.
  - These requests were brought to the attention of the JJPOC Co-Chairs, Rep. Walker and Marc Pelka who supported the idea.
- The overall scope of this Subgroup is to survey the state of Connecticut and determine the needs gaps for females within the justice system and how to address these areas of concerns.
- Looking to partner with Roca to provide technical support as well as the Human Trafficking Committee to support the work conducted within the Subgroup and to avoid duplicating efforts.
  - DOC, CSSD, and the Public Defender's office have been invited to have an exploratory conversation about this Subgroup and what it can offer.

#### 2. Reentry Subgroup Update

- PA 22-188, section 3 of the legislation proposed to the JJPOC places the responsibility of drafting the Reentry Plan with CSSD, DCF, and DOC.
- Plan must be drafted by 11/1/23 and presented to the JJPOC by 1/1/24.
- Working draft of the Reentry plan has been disseminated to all Subgroup members.
  - Draft contains four distinct categories:
    - Current programming
    - Gaps in Service
    - Potential Solutions
    - Resources
- Legislation passed requires the Reentry Plan to include nine different components ranging from education, vocational, mental health, substance abuse, credible messengers, and others. The Plan must also include funding and quality assurance.
- Next steps include:



- CSSD conducting surveys to gather information from youth.
    - 31 surveys were collected.
  - Gathering focus group participants.
    - Thus far, eight youth from four different facilities have agreed to take part in the focus group.
- Liz Buck, the head of the Center for Health Care Strategies will be presenting at the next Reentry Subgroup meeting taking place on 9/5/23 at 10:00AM to talk about new legislation that allows for Medicaid funding for youth that are incarcerated.
- 3. **Commissary Subgroup Update**
  - Commissary teams at both MYI and York have been established following the passing of H.B. 6888.
  - Youth have been surveyed to understand what incentives they would like to be included in the Commissary Plan.
  - MYI has implemented “starbucks”, an incentive tool where youth are rewarded with “starbucks” and can purchase snacks and other things from the commissary.
  - Team has drafted a PBIS Implementation Plan which will go into effect 11/1/23.
  - First trainings will begin in August and be conducted biweekly through December, 2023 into January, 2024.
- 4. **DOC Monthly Chemical Agent Report**
  - One instance of chemical agent usage on 6/13/23.
    - Six youth involved in the incident and an inadequate number of staff members were on hand to handle the situation.
    - Two staff members were injured.
      - One was out of work for a week. One was out of work for a couple of months. Both members have returned as of two weeks ago
      - No injuries reported for the youth involved. Youth have been separated and no further instances have been reported.
- 5. **JBCSSD MYI Transfer Implementation Plan Update**
  - Reformed Workgroup to work on Plan.
    - Members are from DCF, Community Expertise Workgroup (CEW), the JJPOC, and OPM.
  - Seven meetings have been scheduled from the end of August, 2023 through the end of November to discuss different sections of the plan.
    - Last scheduled meeting taking place on 12/15/23.
  - Workgroup will be reading through the plan formerly submitted to the CGA to provide a foundation for the new plan.

**Next Meeting: October 16, 2023.**