



## JJPOC Re-Entry Subgroup Meeting

SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

1:00 PM- 2:00 PM

Web-Based Meeting – Zoom

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

### Meeting Summary:

#### 1. Speaking with Youth at MYI

- The youth were asked their perspective on what they felt would make them successful when their time comes to re-enter the\ir community.
  - They indicated that having a guaranteed job as well as a stable support system, either family or a mentor, upon their reintegration into their community would aid in their success upon release.
  - They also discussed how their vocational skills they have developed while at MYI can be applied within their community.
  - It was clarified by a member of the group that works for juvenile residential services that there are currently plans to develop a program that would aid juveniles in applying their training and certificates earned to the work force upon release.
  - One of the young men expressed that they feel that some people that are at MYI do not take advantage of the programs that are provided as a resource to them.
  - A member of the group asked the youth what could be done to engage youth in the programs and vocational training offered to them.
    - The young men explained that it would be beneficial if upon the enrollment of an individual in a program, it should be explained to them why they were placed in that program and how it can be beneficial to them upon their release. If they decide that the program is not for them let them make the choice to withdraw from the group.



- One of the group members discussed how even some youth with a support system are concerned that once they are released, they fear they will fall back into the same pattern that led them to be incarcerated. The young men were asked what they think that we can do to prevent this cycle.
    - They answered that it is a matter of stepping out of their comfort zone and wanting to change. They stressed that even though it is difficult, they need to build a new foundation and resist falling back into their old ways just because it is comfortable and familiar.
  - The youth were asked what they think would make the youth returning to school the most successful.
    - They indicated support groups or mentors where someone can check in on them and ensure that they are doing what they need to be doing.
  - There was discussion surrounding the concerns that are present regarding falling back into old habits when you return to being around the same environment and assistance for relocation after release.
    - The youth discussed how many of the youth they know do not have the means to be able to relocate after they are released and that is where people tend to fall back into old habits.
- 2. Review the Draft Workgroup Documents**
- Outline the timeline for increasing and improving the re-entry support services for youth.
    - It was discussed that members of the Data Sharing Workgroup are putting a plan together to show data about what the juvenile justice system looks like today.
    - Prioritize the recommendations that have been given to adhere to the legislative mandates that are due in January 2023
    - The goal for this workgroup is to have a full package of recommendations to present to the JJPOC in early December.
- 3. School Level Restorative Justice Circles**
- To serve as a welcome back into the school community following the disruption to their education in which the individual was incarcerated.
    - It was clarified that the youth were harmed by the disruption to their education and those in the circle would serve as a support system for the individual.
    - One of the young men from MYI asked what this approach would look like and what the goal would be?
      - A brief video was shown to demonstrate what these circles would look like and what the goals of these circles are.



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- The youth from MYI shared their concerns regarding how this model would work for individuals who were required to leave their previous school after they were charged and placed in an alternative school setting.