

THIS MEETING DID NOT CONTAIN A PRESENTATION

JJPOC REENTRY SUBGROUP MEETING

JUNE 4TH, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Web-Based Meeting – Zoom

Attendance

Catherine Foley Geib	Judge Nguyen-O'Dowd	Nancy Decrescenzo
Deborah Rogala	Kristen Mongillo	Patricia Nunez
Echrista Rider	Marisa Morello	Sarah Eagan
Eulalia Garcia	Martha Stone	Tammy Perreault
Glen worthy	Michael Pierce	Talia Nunez
Indre Fishman	Michael Williams	Will Seals

TYJI Staff

Brittany LaMarr
Erika Nowakowski
Paul Klee
Aryana Agli
Crystal Chen

Meeting Objectives:

- Discuss transportation and restorative justice
- Upcoming items include mental health and substance abuse, including a presentation on equality in July
- Recommendations in this meeting reference a coordination hub, of which plans have currently been left undecided for
 - Meeting to discuss coordination hub plan hosted on June 5, 2024
 - 3 Options: Model New Jersey's hub; duplicate adult reentry centers for kids; or take existing staff in some agencies and designate them to do reentry coordination

Meeting Summary:

- **Transportation Recommendations 7(1) & 7(2)**
 - Regularly approving flex funds for bus passes for youth on supervision
 - Flex funding currently sufficient, recommends bus pass place holder that flex funds be included in
 - Reimbursing the family or friends for transportation
 - Judicial has to look into providing mileage reimbursement – currently only clear on providing Uber or Lyft reimbursement
 - In-Person Visits
 - Transportation is a barrier to families receiving services
 - Bus passes provided to increase access to services

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- Probation has availability through flex funds, pre-trial services receiving this availability in next fiscal year, DOC does not have plans to provide bus passes or reimbursement
- Family lacking resources to visit MYI
 - Add transportation support – individualized plans to support family engagement with youth in facilities
 - Expand existing reentry plan component #2
 - DOC working closely with community organizations that offer bus passes, Uber cards, etc. to provide transportation assistance for families visiting the facility
 - No direct line item for DOC
 - Added in ‘funding needed to fulfill’
- Medical transportation funding operations added to 7(1)
 - HUSKY gets EMT – funding may provide medical cabs or transportation and requires coordination
- DOC individualized perspective
 - Important to look at each person as an individual where one person may not need any support, whereas another may need all the support including bus passes, Uber card, and flexibility
- Group Homes/Out of Home
 - No additional funding needed since youth are supported by assigned group
 - Social workers have the ability to transport when needed
- Plan to measure quality assurance
 - Consider the default to bus passes and the bus system and whether it is efficient
 - Bus transportation to the high school does not match high school schedule
- **DMV Driving Courses for Youth 7(3)**
 - CSSD MOU changed from pending to signed
 - Permit testing and issuing IDs in secure facilities (Hartford, Bridgeport, and Hamden regions)
 - Plans to run a trial before end of the calendar year – still working on technology support specifics
 - DOC MOU does not allow to host permit testing
 - Looking to provide driver’s education if granted funding
 - Driving simulators – one for MYI, one for York, quote for \$67k

- Contract with driving school to set youth up with driving education, permits, and one released, take the road test using school's car
 - About \$1050 per youth to include driver's education, permit, license, rental, bus pass to driving school or DMV
- Legal affairs concern about state statute that prohibits an incarcerated individual from driving on the road during custody
- Driving courses currently available through probation flex funds
- Follow up with SDE for information on school-provided driver's education
 - Defensive driving courses offered by several organizations that help prepare or retrain young drivers to be safe drivers
- Persons with car theft or some vehicle violations will not qualify for receiving driver's education
 - When written, legal conditions and qualifications must be added
- **Restorative Justice Components 9(1) & 9(2)**
 - Written response from OVA will be updated in the document as OVA was unable to attend the meeting
 - In terms of quality assurance data collection, CDCS is collecting data
 - Looking to create a dashboard with data compiled from reentry circles, welcome circles, and instant report information to be all in one place for restorative justice
 - Request staff support or funding for contracted quality assurance or assigned staff responsible for quality assurance
 - Need to monitor and support program circles in facilities (training, monitoring, evaluation)
 - Quality over quantity of circles - are circles making a difference
 - Define community-based providers: Contracted providers that kids interact with during reentry
 - (credible messengers, mentors, mental health providers)
- Next meeting is in July with a presentation from quality assurance from Massachusetts and begin the discussion on mental health and substance abuse
- Date for report is now due December 1st

Next Meeting: July 2, 2024