



JJPOC R.E.D. Work Group

January 8, 2020

9:30-11:00am

CSSD, 455 Winding Brook Drive, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Meeting Summary:

- **OJJDP Grant Application**
 - The first round of the OJJDP grant is in its 2nd year (out of 3). Through that grant, the Center for Children's Advocacy receives funding for their RED Reduction Committees around the state. The CT Youth Service Association also receives funding to train employees at various YSBs.
 - An application was submitted for a new grant that would fund a RYASAP program to address mid-level incidents at schools in Bridgeport. The new grant would also provide money to the Center for Children's Law & Policy to provide technical assistance to this RED Workgroup.
- **Review of RED Data**
 - School-based court referrals have slightly increased in recent years despite the overall drop in the total number of juvenile court referrals.
 - Across the state, roughly 1/3 of juvenile court referrals originate from school.
 - Non-Hispanic Whites make up the largest number of referrals, however it was noted that these numbers are not always proportionate in comparison to other racial groups.
 - Among the largest cities, Waterbury saw the highest levels of disparity among juvenile court referrals. Non-White youth were 2.8x more likely to be referred to court than White youth.
 - In smaller towns, there were even larger incidences of disparity noted.
 - Statewide, the percentage of 1st time referrals that are not accepted by the court has increased across all races.
 - Members of the workgroup discussed analyzing the towns with high levels of disparity to compare the town of arrest with the juvenile's home address.
 - Questions were raised to the idea that non-white youth may be referred to court at higher rates while in majority-white communities.
 - There was discussion on addressing a problem within schools where kids get expelled, regardless of the juvenile system outcome. There was discussion on risk and harm reduction, emotion regulation, and school administration modeling.
 - The Workgroup discussed training that used to be provided to police officers to connect with juveniles in the community. The training helped avoid referrals to court and provided officers with de-escalation techniques. The members of the Workgroup expressed interest in bringing back a similar program to the state.

- Next Steps
 - Bryan Sperry will work to provide the data requests made by the group during the meeting.
 - TYJI, the Co-Chairs and CSSD will work together to set up a meeting for an in-depth look and discussion of Judicial's programs, court policies, etc.
 - The RED workgroup would like to continue to review data on programs, specifically relating to the availability, outcome, completion rates, and recidivism rates. They would like also like to review arrest data on non-resident juveniles vs. resident juveniles

Next Meeting: Feb 19th, 2020 @ The Consultation Center, 389 Whitney Ave, New Haven, CT 06511