

**THIS MEETING DID NOT CANTAIN A PRESENTATION – DISSCUSSION AND  
UPDATES**

**JJPOC Racial and Ethnic Disparities Workgroup**

**May 18, 2022**

**9:00am-10:30am**

**Web-Based Meeting Zoom**

**Meeting Summary:**

- Discussion Led by Laura Furr on Youth and Community Engagement
  - April to June assessing youth, family, and community engagement on the JJPOC and its workgroups
  - Would like to know how to improve and know challenges of engagement for the workgroup
  - Presenter shared language:
    - Youth adult partnership: a shared power, adults giving up some power
    - Youth input: asking for input and apply the input to work
    - Youth advocacy platforms: youth create advocacy platforms and advocating to adults
    - Youth Lead: Youth making decisions and adults provide the logistics/support
    - Adult decision making: adults telling youth the decisions that they make
  - It was pointed out that there needs to be authentic youth engagement, which is not:
    - Checking the box: Inviting youth, but not giving them power
    - Manipulate the results: only inviting those that agree
    - Telling their story: potentially retraumatize and not actually applying lived expertise
  - The question was asked how this group is currently or trying to engage with youth
  - The workgroup has done outreach to constituent groups and worked with community organizations to bring youth voices to the table, especially when proposing legislation that will impact families
  - It was mentioned that there is not yet a consistent way of connecting with youth; something that needs to be worked on by accommodating more for youth to give them the space to participate
  - Although it could be more present, the group has started to look at the impacts of what they are proposing and the effects on the community level
  - The point was made that youth who are incarcerated are the most silent, ways to better engage these youth were discussed such as going to MYI, or live streaming meetings
  - It was discussed how there needs to be a clear discourse of what the commitment is and that the expectations must be clear so that families are not let down
  - The idea of the workgroup chairs attending the CEW quarterly to engage with the youth there to relay information between workgroups was brought up
  - Although the JJPOC has contracts with organizations that involve youth there are still gaps in the structure, so it was discussed how to a create space within the JJPOC to open the agenda to youth and families to make sure they are heard
- CCLP Update

- Currently trying to make connections between partners regarding the equity dashboard- as they are working to ensure reporting of racial and ethnic data for the youth legal system
- Once they can connect with the dashboard, they plan on creating resources for communities to be able to utilize it
- It was brought up that those creating the equity dashboard will visit each group to get input on the dashboard to ensure that everyone is giving feedback, however they are not yet ready for the demo; although not ready for the demo the next phase is to convene a small group to review the dashboard and provide feedback
- There was discussion about the dashboard, it's current state and how far it might be from completion; there needs to be more work done on the dashboard and figuring out how to finish development
- The CCLP would like to help communities access the data, utilize it and would like to officially connect with those in the creation process as they are interested in in how the information will be presented on the dashboard
- CCLP wants to connect the data with the CEW to be able to get their input; those creating the dashboard plan on engaging the workgroup to receive feedback
- There were some concerns about where the dashboard is at in terms of creation as timelines seem unclear at this point
- Promoting ethnic and racial justice assessments on policy proposals: the requests made to DCF and SDE have not been responded to yet
- Pedestrian stops and discussing the role of SROs in schools: seeking guidance on how to provide support or advance discussion in those areas
- Discussed how this year will be used to figure out how to put parameters around SROs in schools: looking at how others are creating models and what other districts are asking schools to do in terms of SROs
- Brought up to potentially engage with the Education Committee about SROs; also engaging with schools however this may pose as a barrier
- CCA Update
  - School based arrests: RED data is showing that cities with SROs in schools have the highest levels of arrests in schools (Waterbury)
  - Gaps in services: community services and restorative justice alternatives are not available across the board
  - Diversion issues: one large issue with diversion service is parental consent
  - Particular jurisdictions have programs/practices that are working but they are not implemented statewide, there needs to be some examination into taking some of the programs statewide
  - New Haven has the highest rate of those in detention during pretrial, it was discussed how there needs to be more intervention for the mid-level kids rather than waiting for children to become the high-level, that way there can be evaluation of how well interventions are working
  - Barriers of DCF: can only report arrests for certain groups of youth they oversee and do not give information on the other populations which leaves an incomplete picture

- Chronic absenteeism and discipline: disproportionality still exists, home visits have been implemented to improve attendance in some districts, however this did not make a difference in attendance
- It was asked what occurs in a home visit to see why there are not positive outcomes; potentially bring this up if there is a meeting with the education workgroup

**Next Meeting:** July 20, 2022, 9:00-10:30am