

THIS MEETING DID NOT CONTAIN A PRESENTATION

JJPOC Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) Workgroup

September 18th, 2024

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Web Based Meeting- Zoom

Attendance

Aliyah Henry

Anne McIntyre-Lahner

Brianna Baker

Chris Dutcher

Derrick Gordon

Erica Bromley

Hector Glynn

Joanne Santiago

Kathryn Dube

Martha Stone

Neika Thompson

Robert Francis

Ronald Schack

Steve Smith

TYJI Staff

Brittany LaMarr

Danielle Cooper

Meeting Objectives:

During this meeting, updates were provided regarding the Charter Oak Equity Dashboard Guidebook, the JJPOC strategic plan, and CCA. Upcoming events were also discussed as well as next steps, specifically regarding the next RED workgroup meeting.

Meeting Summary:

- Updates from Charter Oak Equity Dashboard Guidebook
 - They are continuing to receive document comments and have met with OPM regarding the dashboard guidebook to refine the document
 - Some data is still not currently available
 - Feedback
 - The meeting was opened for suggestions regarding further actions to take while continuing to work on the guidebook.
 - A question was asked regarding how elaborate the indicators should be without being redundant.
 - Responses were provided to intertwine the indicators with the systems by noting where the same systems and guidelines apply to which other indicator(s).
 - A question was asked whether there could be a toggling function on the dashboard for the operational definition as part of the guidebook.
 - This feature is currently being evaluated on a limited scale.

- A question was asked how the guidebook and dashboard should be launched/made available.
 - A suggestion was made that a walkthrough/training could be implemented for the RED Workgroup members
 - A discussion began regarding town disparities for racial and ethnic minority arrests and how some data seems to be inconsistent depending on who is asked. This could be implemented into the training and how to look at the data from other lenses other than by town/city.
- Strategic Plan Updates
 - The JJPOC is still in the process of developing their five-year strategic plan. The JJPOC is also currently outlining their three major workgroups with two or three subgroups. These workgroups are Education, Diversion, and Incarceration. The RED and CEW are still defining their roles and how they will align with the JJPOC.
 - An initial proposal was made previously of having a liaison from the RED workgroup in attendance of other workgroups to ensure there is attention paid to racial and ethnic issues as well as to ensure not to duplicate efforts.
 - Feedback
 - A question was raised regarding the RED should be doing more oversight and raise concerns on a regular basis.
 - The RED Workgroup should create a mission-like statement to confirm the goals and purposes of the workgroup.
 - Establishing workgroup liaisons was prioritized by members of the workgroup. These liaisons will not only bring information back to the RED workgroup but to communicate with the other workgroups.
 - The Relative Rate Index (RRI) was discussed and how the current proposal does not necessarily cover information regarding smaller towns/cities or towns/cities that were not chosen for analysis when these should be taken into consideration.
 - Some areas do not have REDs when they are needed due to their RRI
 - The proposed dashboard in progress focuses on judicials which will raise issues regarding racial and ethnic disparities among those populations, which is different from on the town/city level.
- CCA Updates
 - The new director of the Racial Justice Project was introduced
 - Three General Takeaways Are:
 - Summer Youth Employment Issues: many kids were rejected from jobs, did not get the job, did not complete the programs, applied to jobs but never heard why they did not get the job

- Inconsistency among RED sites whether police are referring to JRBs or not: some areas police are referring to JRBs and avoiding filing in court while others are filing directly to court and then requiring after screens or probation to send the cases back to the JRBs
- Restorative Justice Initiatives: Some areas have mediation while others do not, some places only have apology letters, and some places do not have any community service
- All of the sites have issues with chronic absenteeism and in school suspension rooms not being staffed/available
- Gaps in Services
 - MDFT (Multidimensional Family Therapy)
 - Credible Messengers with a waiting list
 - No Violence Intervention Program
 - One site has a no violence intervention program, but it is not available for the girls
 - Access to ESS (Educational Support Program run by CSSD)
 - This program is available to youth on probation but not to those referred to JRBs and is provided by CSSD-contracted programs.
- Meeting Concerns
- Feedback
 - Intervening strategies are needed before youth are presented with the issues of employment, therefore there is a planned process in place to assess the issue(s).
 - Funding continues to be an issue for the employment service gaps.
 - A more comprehensive look at youth beyond just their mental health is desired to better understand the needs and limits facing youth.
 - A question was asked regarding whether there is a connection between DCF involved/non-DCF involved youth and the gaps in service.
- On October 11th, 2024, is the 32nd annual Markle Symposium which is focused on youth gang violence with a multitude of speakers.
- Restorative Justice trainings occurring on October 2nd, 2024, and October 3rd, 2024
- JJPOC monthly meeting on September 19th, 2024 at the Legislative Office Building.
- Next Steps
 - Discuss the information of whether youth are tracked after being turned away from the court system and how many/where they are redirected to.

Next Meeting: November 20th, 2024

University of New Haven