

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

2025 Recommendations



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WORKGROUP	RECOMMENDATIONS
COMMUNITY EXPERTISE WORKGROUP	<p>The Community Expertise Workgroup of the JJPOC Recommends:</p> <p>Recommendation1: Appoint Youth to Vacant JJPOC Membership Seats.</p> <p>1. The Community Expertise Workgroup of the JJPOC recommends that “Section 46b-121(n)(b)(23) of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage): Two children, youths or young adults under twenty-six years of age with lived experience in the juvenile justice system, shall be appointed by the Community Expertise Workgroup of the Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee.”</p>
EDUCATION WORKGROUP	<p>The Education Workgroup of the JJPOC Recommends:</p> <p>Recommendation 1: The Education Workgroup of the JJPOC is recommending an amendment to Section 10-198c of the general statutes. In Section 10-198c of the general statutes the Education Workgroup is recommending that attendance review teams report annually to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) on their approach and outcomes. Section 10-198c(b)(2) should read:</p> <p><i>“(2) Any attendance review team established under this subsection may consist of school administrators, guidance counselors, school counselors, school social workers, teachers and representatives from community-based programs who address issues related to student attendance by providing programs and services to truants, as defined in section 10-198a, and chronically absent children and their parents or guardians. Each attendance review team shall be responsible for reviewing the cases of truants and chronically absent children, discussing school interventions and community referrals for such truants and chronically absent children and making any additional recommendations for such truants and chronically absent children and their parents or guardians. Each attendance review team shall meet at least monthly and shall report annually to the Department of Education on its specific efforts and outcomes.”</i></p> <p>Recommendation 2: The Education Workgroup of the JJPOC is</p>

	<p>recommending an amendment to Section 10-198d of the general statutes. In Section 10-198d of the general statutes the Education Workgroup is recommending that CSDE report on its use and efficacy (by school district) of chronic absenteeism prevention and intervention plans. Section 10-198d(a) should read:</p> <p><i>“(a) Not later than January 1, 2016, the Department of Education, in consultation with the Interagency Council for Ending the Achievement Gap established pursuant to section 10-16nn, shall develop a chronic absenteeism prevention and intervention plan for use by local and regional boards of education to reduce chronic absenteeism in the school district. No later than January 1, 2026, the CSDE shall report on the use and efficacy of chronic absenteeism prevention and intervention plans by school districts.”</i></p> <p>Recommendation 3: The Education Workgroup should collaborate with CSDE to identify school district metrics that shall be reported to CSDE in 10-198c and 10-198d.</p>
DIVERSION WORKGROUP	<p>The Diversion Workgroup of the JJPOC Recommends:</p> <p>Recommendation 1: All municipalities and/or municipal agents responsible for operating a Youth Diversion Team/Juvenile Review Board should report to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) on an annual basis data related to youth being diverted and the outcomes of diversion as per DCF requirements.</p> <p>Recommendation 2: No later than Dec. 1, 2025, Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) should work in partnership with the JJPOC Co-Chairs and/or their designees, and representatives from the Community Expertise Workgroup develop a proposed statewide uniform youth diversion policy for the consideration of POSTC.</p> <p>Recommendation 3: No later than Dec. 1, 2025, POSTC should work in partnership with the JJPOC Co-Chairs and/or their designees, and representatives from the Community Expertise Workgroup to develop a proposed youth diversion training curriculum for consideration as a part of its accreditation requirements for local law enforcement.</p>

GENDER RESPONSIVENESS WORKGROUP	<p>The Gender Responsiveness Workgroup Recommends:</p> <p>Recommendation 1: DCF should report to JJPOC by July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, on the implementation of the new STTAR Plan released in March 2024. DCF report should include currently available metrics, and should consider developing additional metrics in September 2025 for subsequent annual reports.</p> <p>Recommendation 2: DCF will submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025 on how many calls it receives of possible/suspected child sexual abuse, including reports of abuse and neglect in out of home care settings; how many of those are substantiated; how many calls it receives of possible/suspected child sexual abuse are referred to regional multidisciplinary teams (MDTs); and any gaps in access to or capacity of the MDT system to meet the need.</p>
INCARCERATION WORKGROUP REENTRY SUBGROUP	<p>The Incarceration Workgroup - Reentry Subgroup Recommends:</p> <p>Recommendation 1: Transition Supports</p> <p>JBCSSD and DOC should submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025, how much of the items listed below are happening, how many youth are utilizing the supports, what number of youth and families need the below services, and what is the difference between the demand for the below items. Additionally, they should ask families their need for the below items and submit an officially recorded anecdote on the utilization and need, to demonstrate barriers, considerations, and opportunities. DOC and JBCSSD may also identify, or offer suggestions of their own, for potential funding reallocations to support the items below. They should identify how many youth leave their facilities on supervision and end of sentence, and any appropriate or necessary partnership to deliver the provision of services below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. When a youth is admitted to a facility or contracted program, necessary transportation assistance to the youth's identified family to visit the young person at the facility or contracted program at least twice a month. b. The need for flex funds to support families in need for up to 6 months following a youth's return home. Support may include but is not limited to housing assistance, basic needs, transportation, and vocational training. c. The need for flex funds to youth and their family the ability to relocate if needed for safety reasons. Funds may cover moving, basic needs, and initial housing

payments.

Recommendation 2: Vocational and Employment Support

JBCSSD and DOC should submit to JJPOC by March 1, 2025, a list of vocational/employment programming they have and the limitations to connecting youth to opportunities in the community. They should provide an explanation on how they are connecting youth, and how many, to these opportunities prior to release.

a. Additionally, DOC and JBCSSD should identify the individual at each facility who is responsible for knowing the youth who are in job related activities, their release date, and how many youth released have an employer and/or connected to a vocational program.

b. Finally, DOC and JBCSSD should outline strategies and opportunities to address current limitations or inefficiencies in connecting youth to employment/testing/opportunities prior to release and during their time in facility.

Recommendation 3: Quality Assurance Report Through OPM

There should be annual reporting of the above recommendations, as outlined in the quality assurance logic model reporting outlined in the Reentry Success Plan dated December 2024, using a secure data enclave to conduct the evaluation.