



MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON DETENTION REFORM INITIATIVE

Juvenile Justice Council (JJC)

June 17, 2013 (Monday)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Juvenile Justice Complex - large conference room
1401 NE 68th Avenue Portland, Oregon 97213

MEETING NOTES

AGENDA TOPIC / PRESENTER	NOTES
Welcome & Introductions Christina McMahan - Director, Juvenile Service Division Judge Maureen McKnight - Chief Family Court Judge	Christina welcomed everyone and asked folks to introduce themselves.
Pro bono school rep in Washington County Brian Baker and Elizabeth Brown – Youth, Rights and Justice	School works project overview – served 2,500 clients with advocacy grant funded .5 coordinator / .5 attorney to work with Youth Justice Corp. They were invited and trained a corporation of attorneys to work to get kids back into school – currently have about 20 cases that are really tough. The primary referrals are from juvenile justice and DHS – youth does not need to be on probation to participate.
Casey Conference update by all in attendance who went to the national conference in Atlanta, GA Judge Maureen McKnight – Chief Family Court Judge	This item is moved to the upcoming July agenda.
JSD Budget Update with a focus on CD/EM and any other budget updates by system partners in attendance Christina McMahan	Proposed budget was accepted – 1 JCC displaced (Dave Riley) – disband internal CD/EM and contract to outside agency. Volunteers of America responded which would save the county \$200,000. Dave Riley will be covering for Kim Bernard, DCJ Public Information Officers for 2 months full time over the summer. The 60-day temporary Placement Coordinator will be Candace Johnson which is a lead position that will be up for rotation. Title IVE will have the draft approved next week and the agreement signed to begin receiving funding. Budgeted amount is \$500,000 to fund Youth Villages, restore shelter beds, and add Therapist Assistant for FFPS (model calls for this) contracted out for competency group services
Immigration Issues Workgroup Julie McFarlane – Youth, Rights and Justice	This group is wanting to do training on polices, etc. for immigration youth – there is a concern by families to engage with the formal system due to being screened through LEDS. Inform trauma system being informed of family trauma
Group discussion regarding the summer meeting schedule for JJC and include ideas from the group regarding a bi-monthly meeting instead of every month All	Moved to future meeting

Facilitators: Christina McMahan & Judge Maureen McKnight

Staff Assistant: Tina Edge

Next meeting scheduled for ...

July, 2013 (Monday)

12:00noon - 1:30pm

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1401 NE 68th Avenue Portland, OR 97213

For more council info, visit: <http://web.multco.us/lpscc/juvenile-justice-council>

** Meetings normally take place 3rd Monday of every month 12:00noon - 1:30pm **

Youth Justice Corps – Advocates for Education Rights

Youth, Rights & Justice, Oregon's nonprofit law firm for children, is seeking volunteer attorneys and law firm partners who will help some of Oregon's most vulnerable children get the support they need to enroll in school, stay in school, succeed and graduate. The students who will be served will be in the foster care system, the juvenile justice system, or both. The majority of the students will reside in Washington County. Volunteer lawyers will help protect students' rights to due process and to a "Free and Appropriate Public Education."

Youth, Rights & Justice, formerly known as the Juvenile Rights Project, was founded in 1975. Over the past 37 years, we have represented over 50,000 youth and parents in the juvenile court system. Most have been foster children, and the majority has suffered from abuse and/or neglect. In 2002, we created the SchoolWorks Program. Since that time, the program has served 2,500 students, directly addressing the educational risk factors that endanger the success of children in foster care and youth in the juvenile justice system. The vast majority of our clients reside in Multnomah County.

Numerous studies, including those from the Casey Family Foundation, The Washington State Institute for Public Policy, and the Chapin Hall Center for Children, report dismal outcomes for children in foster care when it comes to their education and readiness to become self-sufficient and successful adults. Youth involved in the juvenile justice system as a group have high rates of learning disabilities and school discipline and relatively low rates of literacy, academic achievement and high school completion.

The movement of students who are repeatedly disciplined in school to the juvenile justice systems has been called, "the school-to-prison pipeline". The goal of the SchoolWorks program is to disrupt this "pipeline" for youth that are most at risk. This proposal is aimed at increasing our capacity and geographic reach to help additional struggling students, many of whom are minority students, stay in school.

Youth, Rights & Justice is creating a referral system for students primarily from Washington County. We are working with the Juvenile Department, Metropolitan Public Defenders and DHS to identify youth who are in need of advocacy to return to or stay in school. Many of these youth have special education needs that are not being met. Others have experienced excessive exclusionary discipline which has hindered their ability to learn.

Youth Rights and Justice is recruiting individual attorneys and firms to provide services similar to our SchoolWorks program to students we cannot serve due to our limited capacity. We will provide training and consultation to volunteer attorneys on an on-going basis. Additionally, we will provide referrals and a brief questionnaire to collect outcomes at the end of a case.

The Youth Justice Corps is supported by the Spirit Mountain Community Fund, the Collins Foundations and individual and corporate donors to Youths, Rights & Justice.

Contact Kathy Gordon for more information: kathyg@youthrightsjustice.org