

Telephone: (302) 577-5030

Fax: (302) 577-3440

**STATE OF DELAWARE**

# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL**

**STATE OFFICE BUILDING – 10th FLOOR**

**820 FRENCH STREET**

**WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801**

**Summary Minutes**

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Group**

**Wednesday, April 27, 2016**

**2:00PM -3:00 PM**

**DSCYF, Multi-Purpose Facility**

**Committee Members:** Michael Arrington, Esq. (chair), John Sadowski (DOE), Dr. Tim Brandau (Child, Inc.), Kit Lunger, Esq.(ODS), Director Nancy Dietz, and Michelle Brogden (DYRS) , Carrie Hyla (Family Court), Bev Williams and Mark Harmon (Aid in Dover, Inc.), and Joseph Gardner (DSP).

**CJC and SAC Staff:** Terica Jones, Scott McLaren, Stacey Paoli, Monica Celli, Ericka Blythe

**Public Attendees:** *None*

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

1. **Presentation: DSCYF Quality Assurance Program**

Michelle Brogden, the DSCYF Quality Assurance Manager presented on the newly implemented Quality Improvement Unit. There are 3 branches to the unit including: Quality Assurance (responsible for policy, tools, and services), Professional Standards (responsible for monitoring federal and agency standards and accountability), and Data and Statistics (responsible for creating and maintaining agency databases and running queries for analysis. This unit is working to measure the outcomes of the various programming efforts of the department to ensure the highest standards of service are provided. They also want to ensure that staff are trained correctly and that the right services are going to the right youth. This is an effort to ensure transparency and to determine what is being done well and what may need improvement.

In addition the presenter discussed the validation being done on the Dispositional Matrix in Delaware slated to start in April 2016. A multi stakeholder committee was assembled to discuss the matrix and any issues related to its implementation. At the time of the meeting, DYRS was utilizing a draft version of the matrix. Plans were also discussed to move to a new risk assessment tool for the department. This will allow on-going assessment of youth placements.

1. **New/Old Business**

The Chair initiated a discussion involving various pending legislation. Subject matter included a pending adjudicated drug court bill (HB 62), a bill involving a restriction on shackling that is supported by JJAG and corresponds to a national initiative (HB 211), and a bill concerning “concurrent jurisdiction” in Family Court up to the age of 25 for youth out of foster care with mental health issues.

The Chair also initiated a discussion involving the use of juvenile delinquency finding as a “strike” used for mandatory minimum cases in Superior Court rulings (SB 12).

1. **Adjourn**

Without anything further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Terica Jones

Juvenile Justice Specialist