

Meeting Notes

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

Division of Child and Family Services

1385 South State Street, Room 401

Friday, August 22, 2003

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Present: Gary Anderson, Pat Berckman, Judge Brown, Andria Burton, Gary Dalton, Nap Hagood, Kritsana Imvitaya, Willard Malmstrom, Carol Page, Fred Peake and Russ Van Vleet

Excused: Huy Nguyen and Debbie Rocha

Absent: Leslie Brown, Michael Di Reda, Tonia Hashimoto, Holly Martak and Mark Nosack

Visitors: Nilsa Carter and Jim Earle

Staff: Reg Garff and Diane Ngatuvai

Welcome and Chair's Report

Chair Gary Anderson welcomed all present.

Jim Earle, Executive Director of the Lincoln Center Boys and Girls Club gave a report concerning the 2002 Student Outcome Evaluation Survey. Jim noted that currently only two law enforcement officers are on duty at night in Brigham City. This limitation makes it very convenient for juveniles to commit gateway crimes. Box Elder County is facing a huge meth problem, as well. UBJJ funding is much appreciated and continues to be sorely needed. Willard Malmstrom noted that the data being collected and researched, as required by UBJJ, will be a multifaceted blessing. The funding is supposed to be short term and this study may be of great assistance in helping them to receive future funding. The challenge is finding the programs that work and being able to show the impact on high risk kids. Carol Page asked Jim to write a letter of recommendation to Senator Orrin Hatch for the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) regarding how the grant funding has improved their community situation. Jim thanked the UBJJ Board for their support.

Future of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ)

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice is under fire. OJJDP removed three of their five functions by administrative rule and cut their funding in half. OJJDP separated the Federal Advisory Committee from CJJ and placed it within their administration. This eliminates three of CJJ's five required functions. Additionally, OJJDP and the Office of General Counsel (OGC) were considering legislation requesting Congress to amend the JJDP Act, by deleting the remaining two functions of CJJ. The impact of these two actions by OJJDP and OGC would be the elimination of CJJ. Gary Anderson noted that CJJ is a critical component to training SAGs. Willard added that CJJ has had a tremendous role in juvenile justice reform. It has provided a powerful voice for good with juvenile justice and needs to continue. Carol is hoping to bring OJJDP, CJJ and Senator Hatch's office to the table together. Russ Van Vleet feels that OJJDP is unhappy with one of CJJ's funding sources (the CASEY Foundation). These concerns need to be expressed to David Doi, the Executive Director of CJJ.

Judge Brown motioned to authorize the Executive Committee to draft a letter expressing the Board's concerns to the national office, along with Senator Hatch, CJJ and other public agencies they feel are appropriate. The motion was seconded by Fred Peake and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

\$ Youth Committee/Do the Write Thing: Jennifer Jolley asked for feedback on how to get the word out to

middle school teachers statewide. There are 167 middle schools in the state. Judge Brown volunteered the courts assistance in this effort. Andria Burton attended the National Recognition event and noted that it was very successful.

\$ Disproportionate Minority Committee: Nap Hagood reported that the Culturally Competent RFP project was presented to the Commission for Racial and Ethnic Fairness. However, a quorum was not present and the vote was delayed until their next meeting. The Commission also wanted additional information on their role in the project. Nap also requested that the Committee be given approval to conduct the initial review of the Minority Legal Representation RFP. This grant will begin October 1, 2003 and end on June 30, 2004; up to \$60,000 in funding is available.

There was a motion made by Fred Peake that the DMC Committee review the grant applications once they are received and make a recommendation to this Board for final approval. The motion was seconded by Judge Brown with unanimous approval.

Juvenile Justice Specialist Report

\$ Budget - Reg Garff reported that the budget for this year is \$857,000, of which \$702,702 has gone to grants. There is \$24,227.50 remaining in the 2003 account. Fourteen thousand dollars remains in the 2002 account and must be spent by September 2004. The 2001 year ended up with \$12,000 in the account and Reg will request a one year extension on this money to September 2004.

\$ Scholarship Funds - The Critical Issues in Mental Health Conference is slated for November 6th and 7th and Pat Berckman requested approval from the Board to use \$2,000 toward registration scholarships.

Judge Brown made a motion to approve the use of \$2,000 from the budget for use with scholarships toward attendance at the conference. The motion was seconded by Nap Hagood and met with unanimous approval. Please forward any suggestions of agencies that could use these scholarships to Pat at 269-7501 or via email at pberckman@co.slc.ut.us.

\$ Request for Additional Funds - The Outcome Evaluation project requested \$4,000 in additional funding as there are six new projects participating in the project. *A motion was made by Gary Dalton to approve this amount for the outcome evaluation. The motion was seconded by Carol Page. The motion was unanimously approved.*

\$ Legal Representation Study Press Release - It was suggested that it be clarified that this study was conducted for the state of Utah only. *Gary Dalton made a motion that the press release be accepted with this change and distributed to local media. The motion was seconded by Russ Van Vleet and was unanimously approved.*

\$ Site Visit Reviews and Assignments - The UBJJ monitoring assignments were reviewed. Reg will email the list of new assignments and the board members were asked to bring that list with any revision requests to the September meeting. *A motion was made by Carol Page to approve the Executive Committee's suggestion that site-visits must be completed prior to any board member attending a conference. The motion was seconded by Fred Peake and unanimously approved.*

\$ Board Vacancies - UBJJ is out of compliance on this issue by one. The majority of board members need to be non-government employees. The following names were suggested as possible board members; Terry Schwendiman with the Exchange Club in Bountiful; Jim Walker and Scott McKinney who is currently the pastor of the Orem Evangelical Free Church. *Gary asked board members to come to the September meeting with suggested individuals and their resume.*

\$ The UBJJ Annual Meeting will be held at the Jordan Commons in Sandy on October 24th from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Further details will be forthcoming.

Mental Health and Juvenile Justice

Pat and Willard attended the CJJ Portland Conference and found it to be very informative. It was a

successful conference with emphasis on effective practices and nationally recognized programs. Suggestions were made to reach out to Native Americans by personal means, rather than bureaucratic bulletins. Pat made two site visits; one to an access center for homeless youth, shelter drop-ins and the other to a detention center. Many of the teenagers in Portland congregate in a closed situation in the downtown area of Portland.

Willard recommended that Lisa Melanie Boesky, Ph.D., be invited to come and train at the Troubled Youth Conference. Pat is following up on this. Ms. Boesky is the author of the book, *Effective Practices for Juvenile and Adult Offenders: What Works?* She presented at the conference and was excellent. Ten copies of her book will be purchased for Board member use.

Comin= Up Update

Nilsa Carter gave an overview of the Comin=Up grant program. Their first year was difficult, but the second year blossomed. They included a heavy piece on cultural issues and attended many community festivals.

Twelve youth from the first year went on to participate in additional services. A big piece of the grant is focused on getting the youth interested in academics and back to schools. They have 12 weeks of training in life skills, drug awareness, communication skills, conflict resolution, mediation skills and how to deal with anger. They maintain the sixty youth that they committed to and intend to keep the number the same this year. Nilsa emphasized that *Just because the youth are done with the program, they're not done with us.* Many of their programs intertwine and the youth go from one project to another depending on their needs. Nilsa expressed appreciation for the grant money and all it means to the youth.

Next Meeting

The next UBJJ meeting will be held at Criminal Justice Services located at 431 South 300 East, Basement Classroom 2 on September 26nd from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.