

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, October 27, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: *Chairman Mike Lawlor*, Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; *Judge Pat Carroll*, Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Branch, *Charlene Russel-Tucker*, Department of Education, *Mark Shock*, Department of Social Services, *Dora Schriro and Ariel Riecht*, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, *Cheryl Cepalak*, Commissioner, Department of Corrections, *Carlton Giles*, Board of Pardons and Paroles, *Karen Jarmoc*, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; *Steve Grant*, Court Support Services Division, Judicial Branch, *Brian Carlow*, Public Defenders Office, *Loel Meckel*, DMHAS, *Chief Kenny*, Chiefs of Police Association

I. Introductions

This meeting was broadcast on CT-N: <http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=13370>

The Monthly Indicators Report can be found on the OPM website:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/monthlyindicators/monthlyindicatorsreport_oct_2016_final.pdf

II. Welcome and Policy Update

- a. The next meeting is on the Thursday before Thanksgiving, on November 17th at 9am. Also the next meeting there will be a briefing on the Risk Warrants.
- b. Chart 2a in the monthly points out that although the sentenced population is trending down, however the pretrial is not trending the same. It is expected that the MacArthur Grant will have an effect on this.
- c. The female population remains unchanged over the past year or two.

III. Approval of Minutes from September 29, 2016

- a. Minutes were approved.

IV. Commission Correspondence

- b. No Commission Correspondence

V. Presentations

- a. There were no presentations.

VI. Agency Updates

Members provided updates on their agencies and latest initiatives.

Judicial Branch– Budget cuts challenges in the Judicial Branch, include layoff, cuts to program, and closing of facilities, which has all happened now. Laid off about 300 positions within the workforce, in addition to 200 unexpected retirements, down 500 employees within the judicial branch from last year. Some layoffs included key players in CSSD, uptick in pretrial may have to do with the loss of some of the JRI staff. They also have a problem with not having enough court reporters. They are operating on tight margins, if there is the desire to continue to provide services from the judicial branch, they cannot withstand further cuts. Judicial Branch operates and provides

services in more locations than any other agencies, 72 judicial branch locations about 43 of those locations are court houses.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) – They were able to get through financial state without having to make cuts in forensic programs, substance abuse program in Hartford court the number of referrals are dropping, because police are taking fewer people into custody. Discussion ensued about how to look into by referrals are dropping properly. MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge meeting in Seattle went well.

Public Defenders Office – no updates at this time

Court Support Services Division (CSSD) – JRI lost 5 of 11 staff members. Cuts to programs as well, 123 beds taken off line, 83% of which were pretrial beds. 3rd quarter recidivism is down to 37.6% which is the all-time low for probation. Treatment Pathway Program, a clinician is in the courthouse for immediate evaluation for offenders, triggers a diversion into treatment programs, the evaluator was funded by a Federal Grant. Through innovative and collaborative efforts by DOC, DMHAS, CSSD, and Judicial Branch, they were able to get a satellite license from DPH to get funding for this successful program.

Department of Correction (DOC) – population 15,079 today, hovering 15,075 for the last weeks or so, the community pop is up 14% since last year, 102 inmates on DUI home confinement, close the Qs at Osborne, those 4 units, 12% reduction in the budget since last year due to less inmates

Department of Children and Families (DCF) – plan to close CJTS by July 2018, facilities and programming within facilities and community programming, redefine the role of juvenile justice social workers, and other recommendations for the upcoming change at CJTS, monthly updates are giving to JJPOC, and the last population is 42.

CT Coalition against Domestic Violence (CCADV)- increase in federal VOCA money, to expand to include a civil family violence victim advocate program and a number of other initiatives

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) – Narcan 126 calls, as a result saved the lives of 115 people, geographically dispersed over the state, criminal charges are only pending on two of those calls. The drug drop boxes are in the lobby of the

Oct 29 and November 2nd annual emergency preparedness exercise is a significant ice storm

CT Prepares is a new app available, lethality assessments conducted 1749 screens, 879 cases were high risk and 808 people accepted the offer to speak to a hotline

Board of Pardons and Paroles (BOPP) - Their statistics are in the monthly indicators report. T first expedited pardon happened a couple weeks ago.

Department of Education – School based diversion initiative, 6 districts, 1,500 students across the districts were affected. Implemented a leader so that when funding goes away, the structure will still be there. 10 schools participated, and those with a leader in residence saw a 33% decrease in referrals. EMPS referrals increased by 42%, so people are trained to know what to do when things escalate, and they are able to work with mental health services.

Chiefs of Police Association – Chief Kenny's region did a large scale active shooter drill, they are hashing through the results right now.

Department of Social Services (DSS) – Medicaid edibility for halfway houses can now qualify. Medicaid to 450 people in halfway houses. Expiated Medicaid for people leaving prison as well. Most of them qualify for Medicaid expansion under the affordable care act and qualify for 100% reimbursement from the federal government, it will scale down to 90% in a few years.

VII. Subcommittee Updates

PJOR – no updates

Behavioral health – no updates

Victim issues – no updates

VIII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Adjournment

Chairman Mike Lawlor adjured the meeting. Thursday before thanksgiving is the next meeting, and the elections will have already occurred.