

Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development Council

Jessie Parker Building, Starkweather Room
510 E. 12th Street,
Des Moines, IA
June 24, 2015

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Present:

San Wong, Iowa Department of Human Rights
Sarah Brown, Iowa Department of Education (by phone)
Jim Hennessey, Child Advocacy Board (by phone)
Adam Lounsbury, Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service
Steve Lukan, Office of Drug Control Policy
Michaela Malloy Rotert, Iowa Workforce Development
Kathy Stone, Iowa Department of Public Health (by phone)
Wendy Rickman, Iowa Department of Human Services

Results Team:

Steve Michael, CJJP
Kile Beisner, CJJP
Nate Connealy, AmeriCorps Member
Julie Hibbens, Iowa Department of Public Health
Kathy Nesteby, CJJP
Betsy Penisten, SIYAC Coordinator
Doug Wolfe, Iowa Department of Human Services

Others Present:

TJ Foley, SIYAC Chair

I. Introductions and Announcements

Steve Michael, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of the Minutes – March 25, 2015

Sarah Brown moved to approve the minutes from the March meeting, seconded by Doug Wolfe. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. SIYAC Update

a. New Leadership

Betsy Penisten, SIYAC Coordinator, reported that 40 new member applications were received. Orientation will be in early August. She provided information on newly-elected officers.

b. Recent and upcoming activities

T.J. Foley, SIYAC Chair, reported on recent legislative planning activities which include pursuing a comprehensive suicide prevention bill and the tanning bill.



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IV. Juvenile Reentry Implementation Project

a. Review submitted proposal

b. Next Steps

Michael provided an overview of the Juvenile Reentry Task Force and its work to create a reentry system for delinquent youth exiting the State Training School, PMICs, and group care. If awarded, the first year amount is \$735,000 with an optional award during the second year of \$500,000. The grant requires a funding match which will be met through the use of DHS aftercare funds. Juvenile Court Services will coordinate reentry planning for youth in their district.

Nate Connealy, AmeriCorps staff, provided further details regarding proposed system reforms for delinquent youth returning to their home communities. The plan includes the use of the Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA), pre/post release planning, evidence-based practices with proven positive youth outcomes, and a focus on Youth Transition Decision Making (YTDM). The plan recommends transition planning begin at least 90 days prior to release. The transition team includes JCO's, mentors, school personnel, community members, family and others. Coordination and communication will be in person or through Skype/FaceTime especially when travel is limited for family members. Multi-dimensional family therapy (MDFT) will insure family engagement. Training will be held in years one and two. The grant should be awarded by the end of September.

[2:19 p.m. – Steve Lukan joined the meeting]

V. Performance Partnership Pilots

a. Review Results Team discussion and update

Michael reported that a proposal was submitted earlier this year to flex certain federal funds (workforce development, aftercare/Chafee, and AmeriCorps). Iowa Workforce Development serves as the lead agency. The proposal is targeted toward disconnected youth aged 16-24 who have been involved with the foster or justice system and are homeless, unemployed, or not in school. The project would provide needed skills and help youth set attainable goals.

A follow-up conference call was held with grant administrators to answer questions pertaining to the proposal and how it would work in Iowa. Michaela Malloy-Rotert provided further details regarding the questions. Michael thought that was a positive sign. If awarded, ICYD members may be asked to participate in certain activities. Two handouts were included in the meeting packet—one outlined the proposal; the other listed questions and responses.

VI. Student Achievement Gap

a. Update from Results Team

Michael outlined recent Results Team discussions regarding the minority student achievement gap. The matter was referred to ICYD. Issues surround parental involvement, communication, cultural competency, and language barriers.



The Latino Affairs Commission will discuss the issue at its upcoming meeting, from which Michael was hoping for more direction. He noted the long-term goal to increase the graduation fits with ICYD's mission.

VII. Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative (JJRRI)

a. 2nd Round

b. Sustainability efforts

Kathy Nesteby provided an update on the JJRRI project.

- A second round of SPEP (Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol) scoring is about to begin on selected community-based and residential providers in the 1st, 3rd, and 6th Districts. The scoring will identify if program improvements were successful. An aggregate report will be shared at a later date.
- A dispositional matrix is being developed for use by juvenile court officials to match delinquents with services available. A representative from Florida will meet with a group that is developing the tool.
- Since no additional project funding was approved during the recent legislative session, a no cost extension has been requested.
- Through the SPEP scoring process and the Justice Data Warehouse, information can be extracted to identify if services are more effective by gender, race, and ethnicity.

VIII. Other Business

Michael shared an email from America's Promise seeking strategies to increase graduation rates. The information was shared with a number of statewide associations, including ICYD. The email states that three \$200,000 grants would be funded to statewide organizations with the best strategies for increasing graduation rates through the GradNation State Activation initiative. If awarded, America's Promise would provide resources and technical assistance.

Michael asked for volunteers to further review the grant application. The deadline for submission is July 31. Michael will share the information with members via email; CJJP will help with data.

The following members volunteered to further investigate the grant application: Doug Wolfe, Sarah Brown, Adam Lounsbury

IX. Adjourn – Next meeting – Wednesday, September 23, 2015, 2:00 – 4:00pm.

There was no other business presented. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning

