



Council of State Advisory Groups

Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2019

Welcome

Hon. Steven Teske, CJJ National Chair

The 2019 Council of State Advisory Groups was called to order at 8:37 a.m.

Roll Call of Member SAGs & Confirmation of a Quorum

Mark Hutchinson, CJJ Treasurer

States Present: AK, AR, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, KS, KY, MD, ME, MI, MN, NH, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, PR, SC, TN, UT, VA, VT, and WA

Introductions of Executive Board Members, Staff, and Guests

Mark Hutchinson, CJJ Treasurer

All members of the CJJ Executive Board and staff were introduced to the Council of SAGs.

Executive Board Members Present: Hon. Steven Teske, Pastor Edward L. Palmer, Cecely Reardon, Mark Hutchinson, Tracey Wells-Huggins, Michelle Diaz, Hon. Michael Mayer, Robert Sheil, Caprice Hover, Hon. John Dewese, Stacie Nelson Colling, Jessica Wheeler, Craig Hargrow, and Brock Landwehr.

CJJ Staff Present: Naomi Smoot, Laura Armstrong, and Gabriella Nixdorf.

Approval of Consent Items:

Hon. Steven Teske, CJJ National Chair

The Council of SAGs unanimously approved the following consent items:

- CJJ Executive Board Roster
- CJJ Staff List
- SAGs by Region
- Member Leadership Committee Roster
- 2018 Council of SAGs Meeting Minutes
- Reports from Juvenile Justice Specialist, ECD/DMC Committee and other CJJ Committees.
- CJJ Budget and Financials

CJJ Progress Report

Hon. Steven Teske, CJJ National Chair and Naomi Smoot, CJJ Executive Director

- Naomi welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the 2019 Annual Conference and Council of SAGs meeting and shared the following update:
 - Webinar series: Understanding the JJDP. This series is focused on helping SAGs understand the 2018 reauthorization.
 - Training and Technical Assistance:

- SAGs: CJJ is here to help SAGs with training, capacity building, and any other needs states would like assistance with. CJJ is able to provide assistance via e-mail, phone, and/or in person.
- Youth Homelessness & Juvenile Justice: CJJ will be releasing a new opportunity for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) communities to receive training and technical assistance on addressing the intersection of youth homelessness and juvenile justice. This is part of CJJ's Collaboration for Change project.
- CJJ is going through strategic planning – updates will be provided in detail later in the meeting.

CJJ Budget Overview and Finance Committee Update

Mark Hutchinson, CJJ Treasurer

- CJJ continues to be in solid financial health.
- Highlights:
 - Received grants from the Raikes Foundation, the Melville Charitable Trust, The Tow Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and The Pew Charitable Trust.
 - CJJ membership strong – CJJ has the highest membership rate since 2013.
 - Interest in conferences and training sessions is on the rise.
 - Conferences:
 - 2018 RED/DMC conference exceed registration expectations.
 - On average the Annual Conference has approximately 350 attendees, this year there were 475 people registered.
 - Individual memberships have drastically increased. This is due to the ability of people to sign up for membership when they register for webinars.
 - CJJ completed a successful financial year in FY18 and is on track for FY19.
 - Goal: Create a reserve and further diversify funding.
- Mark Hutchinson asked for people to join the Finance Committee, Cecely Reardon shared her experiences joining and urged people to join the committee as well.
- Discussion: None.

Regional Chair Reports

● Southern Region

Hon. John Dewese (South Carolina)

The Southern Region has more than 50 people in attendance at the Regional Breakfast Meeting yesterday, with 11 of the 13 states represented. The group had a productive discussion; states shared successes and challenges. Many southern states are looking at raising the age of jurisdiction, the new JJDP reauthorization, and Racial and Ethnic Disparities. The meeting provided a great opportunity to network and the ability for states to learn and support each other.

Election: 8 people ran for Southern Regional Representative. Hasan Davis (KY) was reelected.

● Midwestern Region

Hon. Michael Mayer (Minnesota)

The Midwestern Region had seven of 11 states present at the Regional Breakfast Meeting yesterday. The group had an open discussion where each state talked about the successes and challenges, compliance, and how to help each other. A few regional wins include: Missouri raising the age to 18; Michigan is in the process of raising the age; Ohio has started training probation officers to move away from using technical violations and refocusing efforts on mentoring youth; South Dakota is making great strides in using diversion; Wisconsin is closing down facilities. Judge Mayer gave a shout out to Minnesota SAG Chair for his leadership and his birthday.

Election: Danny Turek (OH) was reelected as Midwestern Region Representative.

- **Western Region**

Stacie Nelson Colling (CO)

The Western Region had 11 out of 19 states/territories represented at the Regional Breakfast Meeting yesterday. The group had a great discussion and heard updates from each state. The region had the idea to work on an initiative as a region. The region is excited for the Spirit of Youth Awardees from Washington. Additionally, they are looking forward to meeting again in Scottsdale, AZ for the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Conference in November.

Election: Gordon McHenry, Jr. (WA) was elected as Western Region Representative.

- **Northeastern Region**

Bob Sheil (VT)

The conversation at the Regional Breakfast Meeting was lively, informative, and successful. Ten of the 13 states were present. In general, there are a large number of programs and initiatives taking place in the region, including Raise the Age. Highlights include: New Jersey is a full JDAI state; Vermont raised the age of juvenile jurisdiction to age 21 (youth up to age 20 will be in family court); Pennsylvania is putting money back into community programs; Maine is improving their mental health system; Maryland's Handle with Care program is doing well; New York is involved in strategic planning.

Election: Carlos Camacho (NH) was elected as the Northeastern Region Representative.

Proposed Changes to CJJ Bylaws

Naomi Smoot, CJJ Executive Director

- Summary of changes can be found on the first page of Tab 6 in your binder, along with line-by-line edits. CJJ has proposed the changes to the bylaws to align more closely with the newly reauthorized JJDP.
- Overview:
 - Clarifies membership (SAG, organizational, and individual).
 - Youth Committee Chair change to Emerging Leaders Committee Chair.
 - Clarifies that this position must be elected before the age of 24, but can serve consecutive terms up to age 28.

- Striking a term limit. Proposing that no longer exists because it was the only position on the board with a term limit.
 - Shifting from DMC to Racial and Ethnic Disparities to be consistent with the field and the JJDP.
 - The treasure role clarified to explain that it is not a secretary position, only treasurer.
- Joe Vignati of Georgia motioned to approve the proposed CJJ Bylaw changes. Cheryl Massaro of Florida second the motion. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation: Unintended Consequences: Juvenile Justice and Domestic Violence

Connie Garcia, Battered Women's Justice Project

- Connie has been a part of the movement to change systems and services for domestic violence victims for 20+ years. She works on policy-related issues related to the civil and criminal legal response to domestic violence. There has been great process over the years, but many unintended consequences.
- Many states have adopted mandatory arrest laws – there is not a current continuum of which states and counties have mandatory arrest laws.
- The unintended consequences include:
 - Increased number of youth, particularly young women of color, being incarcerated for domestic violence.
 - In some states, victims of domestic violence can rely on the police. Some others cannot. There is no consistency.
 - Victims who fight back or use self-defense are also arrested.
 - Disproportionately affects people of color and low socioeconomic status.
 - Interfamily violence – domestic violence laws in states is often how youth are arrested for domestic violence.
 - Over-reliance on the Criminal Justice System.
- Intended to provide protection to victims, not to arrest youth.
- The trend for detention is going down, but that is not the case for girls. There is an increase in arrests of girls of color.
- From the domestic violence field perspective - it is difficult to change the laws that many have fought so many years to get. Generational lift. “We don’t want to do it wrong again.”
- Ask of the juvenile justice field: If you do not know, learn about the domestic violence laws in your state and understand how those laws pertain to youth and the juvenile justice system.
 - Understand the problem by gathering and analyzing data; learn the law and police arrest process; interfamily violence and root causes.
 - Collaborate with other community partners.
 - Create an initiative within your SAG. Know what is going on your community and take this on as one of the issues: what could be a better response be?
- Connie asked for states to share what their state or county are doing to avoid arrest for youth with interfamily violence.
- Questions/Discussion:
 - Massachusetts: Domestic violence laws created safety precautions for adult offenders, but did not include youth.

- Washington, DC noted that oftentimes the primary offense is disorderly conduct than under that was domestic violence.
- Hawaii: 2 years ago the state started working with family court to address these issues, specifically females who were automatically taken to detention centers.
 - Use Washington's Home Builders Model.
 - Family First Act.
- Rachel Bingham (KY) – How to engage with domestic violence coalitions?
Answer: It's a process. Advice: Trying to figure out where the resources are – potentially runaway/homeless shelters can they be converted to domestic violence shelters.

Strategic Planning: Vision for the Future

Pastor Palmer, CJJ National Vice Chair and Cecely Reardon, CJJ Immediate Past Chair

- Pastor Palmer acknowledged and thanked the Strategic Planning Steering Committee – Hon. Joan Byer, Hasan Davis, Michelle Diaz, Pastor Palmer, Cecely Reardon, Laura Armstrong, and Naomi Smoot.
- Cecely Reardon extended gratitude to Maureen Holla with Onward Consulting for leading this process and keeping the group on task.
- **4 Components to the Work:**
 - Materials Review
 - Review of all materials CJJ has produced, including website and social media.
 - Interviews
 - Shay Bilcheck (Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown)
 - Marcy Mistrett (Campaign for Youth Justice)
 - Diane Sierpina (Tow Foundation)
 - Naomi Smoot (Coalition for Juvenile Justice)
 - Meg Williams (Colorado Juvenile Justice Specialist)
 - Member Survey
 - Council of SAGs, SAG Chairs, Individual and Organizational Members.
 - Report provided by Onward Consulting.
- **Highlights:**
 - Interviews: Interviews gave insight into CJJ's value and impact; CJJ's strengths, weaknesses, and internal and external challenges and opportunities; the issues/areas that could benefit from CJJ's involvement and mission.
 - Member Survey: 71% of SAGs supported membership renewal with CJJ.
- **Questions/Discussion:**
 - Page 10: What does it mean by monitoring?
 - Acting as a convener and conduit of information – monitoring federal legislation.
 - Will this include monitoring OJJDPs implantation and interpretation of the law? Yes.
- **Recommendations Overview:**
 - Make CJJ's core organizational framework clear, aligned, focused, consistent, and accountable.
 - Invest more in the development of CJJ membership.

- Deliver CJJ's training and technical assistance programs with a focus on:
 - Next steps for the JJDPA;
 - Develop and implement Racial and Ethnic Disparities trainings;
 - Overall SAG training and development; and
 - Professionalizing SAG Chairs, Juvenile Justice Specialists, and Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator roles.
- Deliver CJJ's federal advocacy work with a focus on:
 - Appropriations; Relationship with OJJDP; and Racial and Ethnic Disparities.
 - Joe Vignati of Georgia discussed working on enhancing the relationship, a positive relationship, and moving away from "us vs. them." CJJ has its role and can do much more than OJJDP in advocacy and moving the field forward.
- Deliver CJJ's capable and connected juvenile justice network by:
 - Increasing participation;
 - Developing Professional Leading Committees (PLC);
 - Investing in SAG training and excellence.
- **Next Steps:** The CJJ Executive Board has created subcommittees to address each of the above recommendations. We are excited to be moving forward.
 - Subcommittees include:
 - Organizational Framework (Recommendation 1).
 - Goal: Make CJJ's Core Organizational Framework Clear, Aligned, Focused, Consistent, And Accountable.
 - Membership and Network (Recommendations 2 and 5).
 - Goal: Invest More in the Development of CJJ's Membership and Deliver CJJ's Capable and Connected JJ Network.
 - Financial Capacity Building (Addition by the board).
 - Goal: Explore how to operationalize fundraising to increase CJJ's capacity.
- **Discussion:** CJJ is trying to be transparent.
 - Cecely Reardon: We heard loud and clear that CJJ needs to focus on Racial and Ethnic Disparities. CJJ is putting Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the center of everything, especially in our strategic planning work.
 - Naomi Smoot: Thank you to all of the states and our members for sticking with us and helping CJJ get to the point of strategic planning.

Elections

Cecely Reardon, Nominating Committee Representative

Cecely oversaw the elections. Candidates or representatives had each had five minutes to speak.

Recognition of All Election Results and Installation of New Executive Board Members

- National Vice Chair: Michelle Diaz (NY)
- Treasurer: Mark Hutchinson (MA)
- Midwest Region Representative: Danny Turek (OH)
- Southern Region Representative: Hasan Davis (KY)
- Northeast Region Representative: Carlos Camacho (NH)

- Western Region Representative: Gordon McHenry Jr. (WA)
- National Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator: William Jernigan (MD)
- Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee Chair: Tracey Wells-Huggins (NJ)
- Emerging Leaders Committee Chair: Aaron Toleafoa (WA)

Hon. Steven Teske administered the Oath of Office to each incoming or transitioning officer. Officers will assume their new role on July 1, 2019.

Passing of the Gavel

Hon. Steven Teske passed the gavel to Pastor Palmer as he became the CJJ National Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.