

MINUTES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

September 15-16, 2005
Room 514-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Representative Bill Light, Chairman
Senator Pete Brungardt, Vice Chairman
Representative Doug Gatewood, Ranking Minority Member
Senator Karin Brownlee
Senator David Haley
Senator Phil Journey
Senator Kay O'Connor
Senator Jean Schodorf
Representative Kathe Decker
Representative Jan Pauls
Representative Dale Swenson
Representative Jim Ward
Representative Shari Weber

Members Absent

Senator Greta Goodwin

Staff Present

Becky Krahl, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes Office
Deb O'Neil, Committee Secretary

Conferees

Don Jordan, Acting Commissioner, Juvenile Justice Authority
Heather Morgan, Director of Public and Legislative Affairs, Juvenile Justice Authority
Pam Weigand, Director, Youth Services, Lawrence
Dr. Julie Boydston, MST Team Leader, Staff Development and Research Psychologist,
Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center, Inc., Lawrence
Katrina Pollet, Acting Superintendent, Beloit Juvenile Correctional Facility
Michael Dempsey, Superintendent, Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex
Jeff Duncan, Re-Entry Program Manager, Juvenile Justice Authority
Dr. Jim Khalili, Executive Director, Lifeskills Management Center, Olathe

Alana Titus, LMSW, Executive Director, Intensive Family Counseling, Inc., Roeland Park
Karen Beckerman, Director of Prevention, Juvenile Justice Authority
Barbara Baldwin, Program Development and Evaluation, 8th Judicial District Community
Corrections, Junction City
Jen Jordan, Director, Regional Prevention Center, Lawrence
JoLana Pinon, Florence Crittenton Services, Topeka
Chuck Simmons, Deputy Secretary of Facility Management, Department of Corrections

Thursday, September 15 Morning Session

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Chairman Bill Light. Representative Jan Pauls gave a review of the Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice held August 1 and 2, 2005 in Topeka. Representative Pauls informed the Committee that the Conference for next year would be held in Topeka at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, July 30 to August 1, 2006.

Update of Juvenile Justice Authority Reception and Diagnostic Unit

Don Jordan, Acting Commissioner of the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA), gave the Committee an update on the Reception and Diagnostic Unit (RDU) at the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex (KJCC) in Topeka. The RDU opened just after the first of the year and was established by the JJA to provide comprehensive screening, assessment, and evaluation services to youth who have been committed to a juvenile correctional facility. All males will eventually go into this unit before being assigned to one of three correctional facilities (Attachment 1).

Trends in Juvenile Justice

Commissioner Don Jordan, JJA, gave an update on the infirmary at KJCC, stating JJA had found little demand for an infirmary, so it did not seem cost effective to pursue at this time. Commissioner Jordan also addressed some of the current trends in juvenile justice in Kansas and within the state's Judicial Districts, providing a variety of graphs and charts for the Committee to review (Attachments 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6).

Juvenile Treatment Programs

Pam Weigand, Director, Youth Services, Lawrence, gave an overview of the continuum of services available to at-risk youth in Douglas County and the Seventh Judicial District. Ms. Weigand stated that a broad range of prevention programs addressing risk factors identified in the Seventh Judicial District are partially funded with JJA Prevention Funds. One of several programs shared was the KU Truancy Prevention and Diversion Program, which has shown a 90 percent plus success rate. Other programs discussed were the Van Go Mobile Arts (JAMS - Jobs in the Arts Make Sense) Program, a Pre-Filing Diversion Program, several Intervention and Graduated Sanctions (IGS) programs, as well as their Core Programs (Attachment 7).

Dr. Julie Boydston, MST Team Leader, Staff Development and Research Psychologist, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center (CMHC), Inc., Lawrence, provided information on a variety of services for school-aged children ranging from school-based therapeutic, skill building and supportive services to intensive family and systems therapy for children at risk of removal from home. These programs include outpatient services, medication services with an on-site child psychiatrist and nurse practitioner, and community-based services including case management and youth specialists. Initially, the Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Program was developed for the worst offenders, as other programs were not working for this population. The program was eventually broadened to include additional categories ([Attachment 8](#)).

Afternoon Session

[Attachment 9](#) was distributed showing the breakdown of Judicial Districts within Kansas.

Katrina Pollet, Acting Superintendent, Beloit Juvenile Correctional Facility (BJCF), addressed the variety of treatment programs offered at BJCF, beginning with educational programs. Education programs are offered at all facilities, each having an accredited school. The facilities have excellent school programs, which usually enable a youth to advance more than one grade level per year. Ms. Pollet shared that Beloit has been able in most cases to raise the reading levels of the youth to age appropriate levels.

BJCF also offers Anger Control/Structured Learning Training Groups, Substance Abuse, Sexual Abuse and Sex Offender Treatments, as well as a progressive Violent Offender Program. Additionally, BJCF offers "Thinking for a Change"(TFC) which is an empirically validated cognitive/behavioral program developed by the National Institute of Corrections with the intention of helping individuals identify maladaptive or self-defeating thinking patterns, and teaching them how to identify and change those patterns of thinking. These programs are complemented with leisure-time hobbies and activities important in developing pro-social behavior and finding productive things to do with free time ([Attachment 10](#), Question 1).

Michael Dempsey, Superintendent, Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex (KJCC), addressed traditional education issues at KJCC, as well as various types of treatment programs offered to youth at the Topeka facility. Every youth is assessed for the need for substance abuse programs, with Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), and "Education and Relapse Prevention" groups being provided for those needing such programs. The Substance Abuse Department holds an "Alternatives to Violence" program for all youth who have an assault or battery charge, domestic battery charge, or have discussed their angry/aggressive thoughts and are deemed appropriate for the group. "Thinking for a Change" groups help youth look at their thoughts, control their actions, and learn to change thinking and behavior patterns. Additional programs and groups include "Conflict Resolution" groups, "Emotional Literacy" curriculum, Chaplain groups, "Activity Therapy," and a new "Parent Forum." KJCC is also in the process of developing and implementing several new programs ([Attachment 10](#), Question 2).

Jeff Duncan, Re-Entry Program Manager, JJA, talked to the Committee about the "Going Home Initiative" (GHI). The GHI pilot program targets youth up to age 23 and operates at BJCF, Atchison Juvenile Correctional Facility (AJCF), Larned Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF), and KJCC. The GHI involves a closely aligned system of reintegration of youth. There are three phases included: institutional readiness, community reintegration, and long-term support. Each site has two staff members assigned to implement the initiative under leadership of the JJA Central Office.

Kansas has been selected as one of 16 grant sites currently participating in a national evaluation that will assist in determining the initiative's outcome and impact. This evaluation will deliver a cost/benefit analysis as well as detailed data on the participant's reentry experiences including employment, recidivism, and drug use. The baseline data collection period began in September 2004 and is scheduled to end in November 2005. Post-release interviews will be conducted at approximately three, nine, and 15 months post-release ([Attachment 11](#)).

Dr. Jim Khalili, Executive Director, Lifeskills Management Center (LMC), Olathe, discussed various treatment programs, including Crossroads Treatment Program (Crossroads), founded in 1982, which is a 24-week research-based cognitive behavioral program designed to keep youth out of facilities. Youth are ordered into Crossroads by a judge and for the first 12 weeks of the program reside in the Johnson County Juvenile Detention Center. Subsequent to the court hearing, the youth return home and participate in continued treatment for another 12 weeks. Initial data showed that 86 percent of the population was diverted from a facility.

Project SAM provides supervision and some training of youth placed on "Out of School" suspension from one to ten days. Data for the last two and one-half years indicate only 13.5 percent recidivism from program participants. LMC also provides a number of other programs to prevent and redirect anti-social decision making, teach self-respect, and improve conflict management skills ([Attachment 12](#)).

Alana Titus, LMSW, LCSW, Executive Director, Intensive Family Counseling, Inc. (IFC), Roeland Park, noted that IFC was founded in 1984 to address the need for in-home counseling services for juvenile offenders and their families. IFC currently functions as a 501(c)3 agency and pursues government and private grants to support existing programming and initiate new programs to meet the need for home-based services in the community. Functional Family Therapy (FFT) provides IFC the opportunity to improve the quality of services to youth and their families. IFC has implemented and replicated the Blueprint Program of FFT, and the performance appraisal for the first year shows 100 percent of youth served were diverted from JJA custody. Results of a statewide implementation study found that youth engaging in FFT had 30 percent fewer felony crimes 18-months post treatment ([Attachment 13](#)).

Friday, September 16 Morning Session

Review of Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment

Katrina Pollet, BJCF, and Heather Morgan, JJA, discussed sex offenders per total population and sex offender treatments in the juvenile facilities. As of August 30, 2005, the number of youths in juvenile facilities having committed sex offenses was: BJCF-five youths or 16 percent; AJCF-20 youths or 40 percent; LJCF-42 youths or 32 percent; and KJCC-58 youths or 24 percent of the population. Each of the facilities has different materials available for treatment of sex offenders, all of which emphasize the youth taking responsibility for the sex offense, understanding factors that led to the perpetration of the sex offense, and planning prevention measures which will give the juvenile tools to prevent re-offense. Sex offender treatments available outside of the juvenile facilities would include the Salvation Army Koch Center as well as Transitional Living in Wichita ([Attachment 14](#)).

The sexual offender registry was also discussed and it was noted that juvenile offenders are required to register for five years from the time of release from a facility. The Committee requested

Jill Wolters from the Revisor of Statutes Office be scheduled at the October meeting to discuss the sex offender registry issue.

Juvenile Prevention Programs

Karen Beckerman, Director of Prevention, Juvenile Justice Authority, addressed the various types of prevention programs funded by JJA across the state. Ms. Beckerman mentioned four general categories of programs funded, including: Truancy Prevention Programs, Mentoring Programs, After-school programming, and Parent Training/Family Support Services. Ms. Beckerman provided a breakdown of monies expended per Judicial District with a description of Prevention and Intervention State Block Grant Approved Programs funded for SFY 2005 (Attachments 15, 16, and 17).

Barbara Baldwin, Program Development and Evaluation, Eighth Judicial District Community Corrections, Junction City, discussed various prevention programs funded in part by JJA and those funded by the Eighth Judicial District. Counties included in this Judicial District are Dickinson, Geary, Marion, and Morris Counties. The Program Development and Evaluation position is funded by JJA, and Ms. Baldwin feels it is part of her job to make certain the various programs reach the goals set by and for them. Brief descriptions of the various programs were provided, as well as samples of some preventive materials used within the Eighth Judicial District (Attachments 18, 19, and 20).

Heather Morgan, JJA, discussed the cost to JJA for housing pregnant offenders. Ms. Morgan mentioned that JJA would prefer to handle pregnant offenders on a case-by-case basis, as it would be more cost effective than having a central infirmary or facility. Various homes are available for expectant juveniles: Girard House in Wichita; Florence Crittenton in Topeka; and others in Hays and Kansas City. Community Corrections determines when a pregnant offender is to leave the traditional facility to go to one of these homes.

Afternoon Session

Jen Jordan, Director, Regional Prevention Center, Lawrence, shared a power point presentation of 13 regional prevention services. One of the most innovative and successful programs, the VanGo Mobile Arts, Inc. Program (VanGo), is funded in part by the City Alcohol Tax monies. JAMS (Jobs in the Arts Make Sense) is VanGo's successful youth employment program for high needs Douglas County teens. A Summer 2005 Program Summary, including program evaluation results and scores, was provided to the Committee (Attachments 21, 22, and 23).

Matter of Business

With a quorum present, Senator Pete Brungardt made the motion to approve the Preliminary Committee Minutes from the September meeting as written. Representative Doug Gatewood seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Committee requested from JJA a review of administrative costs across the state and the different methodologies for funding the costs.

Cost of Housing Pregnant Offenders by the Juvenile Justice Authority

JoLana Pinon, Business Manager, Florence Crittenton Services, Topeka, noted that Crittenton is a Level V facility that serves offenders as well as Child In Need of Care (CINC) residents. Eighty percent of their population are offenders. In July 2005, Florence Crittenton requested a licensing change to house adolescents only, as it was no longer financially feasible to care for infants. Staff time, educational materials, and transportation costs account for the primary increase in costs for services. Additional services for pregnant residents include pre-natal care, WIC services, Lamaze classes, and parenting education. The estimate of additional costs for a pregnant resident is \$1,100, added to the normal cost of \$122 (Attachment 24).

Inmate Telephone Contract and Funding of Visitor Centers

Chuck Simmons, Deputy Secretary of Facility Management, Department of Corrections, addressed the current telephone contract for all correctional facilities operated by the Kansas Department of Corrections (except for work release at Wichita and Hutchinson). The contract, resulting from Request for Proposal number 05221, was awarded to T-Netix, Inc., now owned by Securus Technologies. Fourteen issues concerning the telephone contract and the funding of visitor centers are addressed in Attachment 25.

The Committee adjourned until the next meeting on October 13, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. in Topeka.

Prepared by Deb O'Neil
Edited by Becky Krahl

Approved by Committee on:

October 13, 2005

(date)