

# Minutes of the JJAC Quarterly Meeting

March 26, 2015

This meeting of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee was called to order at approximately 9:00 AM by Chair Sharon Stover at the Enos Garcia School Campus, Taos School Board Room, 310 Camino de La Placita, Taos, NM 87571.

## II. Roll Call for Quorum

A quorum was established with the following members present:

### Members Present:

Sharon Stover  
Judge Angie Schneider-Cook  
Helen Cheremiah  
Alma Cortez  
John Richmond  
Doug Mitchell  
Shelly Currier  
Anthony Ortiz  
Craig Sparks  
Todd Heisey  
Judge Freddie Romero  
Erica Padilla

### Member(s) Excused:

Anna Marie Loughead  
Amy Orlando  
Sasha Pellerin

### Member(s) Not Attending:

Monnica Garcia  
Wilson Quintana

### Others Present:

Tamara Marcantel, CYFD Special Program Manager  
Linda Kennedy, CYFD Administrative Support  
Ed Raff, CYFD Detention Compliance Monitor  
Steven Shaw, Core Requirement Compliance Monitor  
Elisa Alford, CYFD Data & Research Analyst  
Steven Brooks, CYFD DMC Coordinator  
Rosie Williams, Rocky Mountain Youth Corp.  
Simon Torrez, Non-Violence Works  
Ronald P. Lopez, US Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico  
Caroline Daily, Pueblo of Isleta  
Eulalia Lucero, Pueblo of Isleta  
Alyssa Skrepcinski, US Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico  
Grace Phillips, New Mexico Association of Counties  
Diana Lopez, Sandoval County  
Diane Irwin, Sandoval County  
Cynthia Ferrari, Valencia County  
Judge Alan Kirk, Los Alamos County  
Elizabeth Allen, Los Alamos County  
Rose Gordon, Town of Taos  
Nakeesha Haelen, Taos Restorative Justice  
Alma Gonzales  
Danielle Esparza, City of Raton  
Kathy Swope, Tarrant County  
Walter Vigil  
Ted Allen, Lincoln County

## III. Welcome and Introductions

## IV. Public Comment

None was offered.

**V. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved unanimously.

**VI. Approval of January 15, 2015 Minutes**

Upon motion by Mr. Mitchell, and seconded by Mr. Heisey, the minutes were unanimously accepted.

**VII. Presentation from Taos County Juvenile Justice Board's Service Programs**

**A. Rocky Mountain Youth**

Rosie Williams

Taos Middle School's Learning Lab is for students from 13 - 15 years of age. The Learning Lab is an alternative program for students who are not doing well in public school. Students stay 1 - 2 semesters and are then reintegrated into public school where they will hopefully graduate.

*In state fiscal year 2015, this program received \$29,620 in Continuum funding.*

**B. Non-Violence Works**

Simon Torrez

Curriculum for Non-Violence Works is used in elementary schools to educate students on gang resistance and substance abuse.

*In state fiscal year 2015, this program received \$26,694 in Continuum funding.*

Questions and answers followed.

**VIII. Native American Pass-Through Project – Pueblo of Isleta**

Tamera Marcantel, Special Programs Manager  
Ronald P. Lopez, Law Enforcement Coordinator, US Attorney's Office for NM District  
Caroline Daily, Social Services Director, Pueblo of Isleta  
Eulalia Lucero, Pueblo of Isleta

In order to provide answers to the Board on Native American Pass-Through Funding, Janet did some research and found that the following requirements must be met: 1) it must go to a Native American Tribe that is performing law enforcement functions; 2) the tribe must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and 3) must agree to attempt to comply with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Core Requirements.

Janet also discovered that JJAC has not funded a Native American Project since 2010. In 2013, this Board was presented with a project from First Nations and was told that this would comply with the funding requirements. However, Janet's research shows that it does not meet the requirements since they are a non-profit working with tribes, but not an actual tribal entity performing law enforcement functions. Therefore, we notified CYFD administration and the JJAC board in February that we would not pursue this contract. We also notified First Nations of this decision.

Through various partnerships, we were able to connect with the US Attorney's Office and Isleta Pueblo on a pilot re-entry project. Isleta sent in a work plan and budget for a long term project that meets all the requirements and we have begun to process that contract. Isleta meets all of the conditions required by OJJDP.

A direct contract, through the procurement process, can be entered into at this time and a more competitive process looked into at a later date.

This project began as a violent crime reduction program and has since evolved into the "Smart on Crime" program in Native American communities around the Albuquerque metropolitan area. Many other tribes have models that work for them. Isleta Pueblo is working with these tribes to build the best model that can be shared with everyone. Isleta Pueblo is looking to expand safety and risk assessments to capture the

protective capacity of every child. Isleta Pueblo has a culture committee of elders that plays a vital part of everything done at the Pueblo; they are a guidance committee.

Handouts: Smart on Crime pilot project flier and Pueblo Justice Healing Circle

*In calendar year 2015, project has received a grant for \$20,000.*

**IX. New Mexico Association of Counties**

Grace Phillips, General Counsel,  
NM Association of Counties

It was explained that the New Mexico Association of Counties (NMAC) is an advocacy organization with a strong voice in the Legislature. NMAC also deals with insurance pools, law pools and civil rights issues for counties. They assist counties do what they do best.

The Legislature is currently looking at Senate Joint Memorial 4 – a joint memorial requesting NMAC to study housing and clinical service options for individuals with serious mental illness who are in custody awaiting trial.

NMAC has made a 30 minute video titled PREA Youth Education Video to educate youth on what to expect while in detention. Both the PREA video and the adult detention accreditation document can be found on the NMAC website under PREA materials.

NMAC is working on an MOU with CYFD and the Supreme Court to embed detention alternatives throughout the state in order to provide leadership, regular data collection and dissemination, facilitate education and collaboration, providing trainers, assisting in developing tools, to be a lobbying support and implementation of standards in detention facilities. The document can be ready quickly and progress to signing.

**X. Compliance Monitoring**

JJAC is required by the OJJDP Act to ensure compliance with the four (4) Core Requirements. Several different people/units are responsible for ensuring this is done and, at the last meeting, it was brought to our attention that some board members have never met the former compliance monitor(s). Therefore, in the continued spirit of accountability and transparency, we wanted to introduce you to these individuals and let them tell you about their work/activities.

**A. Juvenile Facilities**

Ed Raff, CYFD Detention Compliance Officer

- There are three more counties left to be inspected.
- Detention standards need updating. JDAI self-inspection standards are not always the same as NMAC's standards. The totality of items will be looked at.
- There is a shift in juvenile beds as juvenile facilities are closing.

**B. Adult Facilities**

Steve Shaw, S Squared Consulting

- Building relationships is very important since JJAC has no statutory authority to go into facilities or to impose penalties.
- Will be addressing some of the concerns outlined in last year's federal audit.
- The compliance monitoring portion of the JJAC website has been revised and new forms added to the site.
- 126 facilities have been identified throughout the state: 1/3 of them must be inspected each year. There may still be more facilities that have not been identified. A better look at unsecure facilities needs to be done.
- Statute states that JJAC, in conjunction with CYFD, is required to see and review annual reports from adult jails and lock ups regarding federal requirements when a youth is temporarily held in an adult facility. JJAC shall determine the content of the annual report.

- We will be working on the 2014 OJJDP Compliance Report for January-December 2014.
- The 2015 report will be gleaned from detention logs and site visits.
- A data base is being created to show when inspections are needed and will flag issues that need to be addressed. This is more of a tracking system than a data system. It will track the three year cycle of monitoring and the detention logs that must be turned in monthly. Since the data program is being created with grant funding it will belong to CYFD.
- The current contract is for \$50,000 plus GRT. This is paid through our Title II Formula Grant funds.
- JJAC is working with OJJDP with the compliance monitoring on how to move forward.

## **XII. Continuum Update**

### **A. JJAC Unit Update**

Tamera Marcantel, Special Programs  
Manager

Each individual continuum site's progress was reviewed. Only one continuum has not caught up due to a change in their fiscal agent and coordinator.

It is estimated that there will be a reversion of \$400,000 at the end of the year.

Overall, we believe that the continuums should meet their match requirement this year. Some sites have met their match and quit reporting; others have met their match and are continuing to report; others are still working on their match and making progress; a few are struggling to meet their match requirement. Guidance is needed for the coming year as to how to deal with continuums that are not meeting their match requirement in their contract. Do we rely on other sites to over-match to make up for those who cannot meet their match? Do we freeze funding until matching requirements are met? Do we reduce funding awards to a level that match can be met? Six month reviews have been given to the sites showing what they have expended and their match. Those who have already met their match need to be encouraged to continue to report their match as it helps show the true cost of their programs. With a little encouragement, sites should be able to make their match. Perhaps CYFD can provide clarification as to what can be used as matching funds? Counties and cities need to monitor their match. It was suggested that a conversation with each of the sites that are still struggling happen by the end April.

The JJAC board currently has a balance of \$12,868.05. No one, as yet, has requested funding to attend the CJJ conference in June. Ms. Pellerin's upcoming conference in Arizona is expected to cost around \$3,000. The last JJAC board meeting incurred a cost of \$1,322 with one outstanding expenditure. Any leftover board funds will be carried over. Federal money is drying up. How JJAC can advocate for more state money needs to be looked at.

Work on the Strategic Plan is continuing. A cost benefit analysis was created to give a base line for what has been done. When the number of youth served is divided by the amount of money expended it equals \$768.24 per child served yearly. These are rudimentary numbers, but it shows that what continuums are doing is very beneficial and a huge cost savings.

All continuum contracts for FY16 have been approved by the Secretary and submitted to the Contract Development Unit. Continuums should have their contracts by the start of the fiscal year.

Federal auditors will be here April 14-16. An update will be given at the next board meeting.

Six month reviews were done with the continuums. Out of that came concerns that there is not enough flexibility regarding supplies. Equipment is described as costing \$5,000 or more and must have a two year life expectancy. Supplies are considered consumables. Items that fall in between these two areas have been denied this year. Obviously we understand the need for

these items but we also want to be sure that we are carrying out the intent of the JJAC Board and CYFD Administration when these funds were awarded. For example, in the application, a site may ask for pens, paper and printer cartridges but then later request that they use these funds to purchase table and chairs, culinary equipment or robotics equipment. Guidance from the Board was requested on whether such changes should be allowed. A better way to define the middle ground is needed for next year; guidance from the CYFD Administration was suggested. When the grant sub-committee reviews applications and sees these types of requests they need to check if they can be done before approving.

When a continuum enters into a sub-contract with a service provider the expectation is that the sub-contractor will have the right skills/training to properly execute the activities in their contract JJAC is being asked for funding for training due to smaller communities having difficulty finding trained providers. Such a concern was also addressed in the 2012 House Joint Memorial 21 – Frontier Initiative. Judge Romero has offered to speak to coordinators on how to fund trainings. It was suggested that a trained service provider be hired to travel to different areas that have trouble finding qualified providers. The Board also requested guidance from CYFD Administration.

JDAI and JJAC's missions are not different. Data needs to be both qualitative and quantitative. Resources need to be pooled. JDAI tools have been given to the coordinators that they could take back to their boards. The JDAI conference will be held in Phoenix this year. It was suggested that young people are included in the delegation that goes.

**i. Research Data** Elisa Alford, CYFD Data & Research Analyst

A data overview was broken down to give an idea of populations served by continuum programs in regards to race, category, gender, age and geographic location. This information can be used to narrow the focus onto youth at risk of coming into the system. This data reflects unduplicated youth served.

Based upon the data there was a concern, expressed by Craig Sparks, that we may be focusing too much on prevention/intervention.

SARA is being updated to be able to create "quick reports" and to make it easier to use.

**ii. DMC** Steven Brooks, CYFD DMC Coordinator

A work group is being formed to review current probation agreements and to look for effective ways that we can standardize probation policies across the state. Perhaps it can be included in the Children's Court forms so that it cannot be modified. The work is just in its initial stages. Disproportionality is higher. Overall numbers have dropped, but underlining probation violations remained the same. A data driven look at the probationary agreement is being done. There is support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation for the probation agreement. We have reached out to the Supreme Court in order to get a few Judges on board with the work group. There is a Supreme Court Rule Committee that puts rules into statute.

Steve reported that he is visiting to counties to educate them on Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) and to get them talking. There are many initiatives that already have DMC interests.

**B. Continuum Coordinator Update** Rose Gordon, Taos Coordinator

The coordinators met yesterday and have selected six representatives from across the state as a leadership team. At least three are expected to attend every JJAC board meeting. A mentoring team was selected to help new coordinators. The next coordinator meeting is being planned for July 14. The coordinators are looking at meeting bi-monthly, possibly by

teleconferencing. They are committed to a true partnership between CYFD, JJAC sites and the Legislature.

One of the most powerful parts of yesterday's coordinator meeting was when the continuums spoke about their programs and how invested they all are. The number of youth being taken in is going down; there is a lot of good work going on.

## **XII. Board Sub-Committee Reports**

### **A. Native American Sub-Committee**

No report. Wilson Quintana, Sub-Committee Chair was not in attendance.

### **B. Youth Sub-Committee**

John Richmond, Chair

The Youth Sub-Committee has been meeting monthly. The contract with Life Link has not been renewed. Finding other organizations that might be able to sponsor youth members was mentioned.

The Youth Sub-Committee is looking into doing a 1/2 day video conference in June for their annual conference. The Youth Sub-Committee's goals are 1) to create a youth manual to help coordinators work with youth and 2) setting timelines and future goals.

Communities in Care has just done a train the trainer workshop on how to engage young people. There is a conference in D.C. around April 20<sup>th</sup> dealing with delinquent youth and behavioral health. A mature youth who has had experience in these areas is being looked for to speak at the conference.

The Youth Sub-Committee has been asked to join the Children's Law Institute's planning committee. The Youth Sub-Committee is beginning to be seen as a group. There are a lot of initiatives to squash the stigma of being involved in the juvenile justice system and youth are needed for guidance.

CYFD will be able to contribute funds to the youth retreat next year and \$300 will be given to each continuum to help support youth activities.

There is no problem asking for donations, but CYFD and JJAC can have nothing to do with the donations or it will become an anti-donation issues. Sponsorships are a good solution. Federal Legislature Liaisons can help get the message out.

### **C. Data and Accountability Sub-Committee**

Doug Mitchell, Chair

No report.

### **D. DMC Sub-Committee**

Judge Freddie Romero, Chair

No report.

### **E. Executive Sub-Committee**

Sharon Stover, Chair

House Bill 2 has passed. The bill includes \$2.6 million in JJAC funding. An additional \$75,000 may be added due to efforts by Representative Garcia-Richards.

Senate Bill 381 regarding grants to programs and services to eradicate bullying statewide is thought to have passed.

House Representative Tripp and are willing to meet with the JJAC board.

**XIII. Board Member Recruitment**

Sharon Stover, Chair

John Richmond will be stepping down from the Youth Sub-Committee by the end of the year and Erica Padilla will need to eventually step down to stay true to youth driven. A new Sub-Committee Chair needs to be elected and new members recruited. It will be helpful if the new chair is a JJAC board member.

The board was provided with a copy of the letter to Governor Martinez requesting that Monnica Garcia be removed and replaced on the JJAC Board due to lack of attendance at the meetings.

**XIV. Public Comment**

None was offered.

**XV. Adjournment**

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Stover declared the meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

**The next meeting will be July 16, 2015 in Ruidoso, NM**

Minutes Approved by the JJAC Committee on:

July 16, 2015



Sharon Stover, Chair