

**JDAI COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD  
MILWAUKEE COUNTY**

Minutes

February 21, 2014

Attendees: Tom Wanta (DCSD), Michelle Naples (DHHS), Kelly Pethke (DCSD), Melissa Graham (DCSD), Mary Triggiano (Judge), Liz Finn-Gorsky, Lovell Johnson (Assistant District Attorney's Office), Cari Taylor (Department of Juvenile Corrections), Stephanie Hove (Department of Juvenile Corrections), Wes Albinger, Heidi Ciske-Schmidt, Prina Goldfarb, Christine Robinson and Pam Erdman (Wraparound Milwaukee), Sara Scullen (District Attorney's Office), Robin Dorman, Debra Flynn-Parrino, Kathleen Osvat-Korto and Robert Mochel (State Public Defenders), Jacqueline Mann (Milwaukee Public Schools), Dennis Cimpl (Judge), Kevin Gilboy (DCSD), Scott Carpenter (St. Charles Youth & Family Services), Wilma Fonseca (Detention Superintendent), Wendy Moraza (DCSD), Tia Medley (Medical College), Wendi Ehrman (Medical College), DeShell Parker (DCSD), Judy Tramonte (Southwest Key), Kristen Kracke (USDOJ), Mark Lipsey (Vanderbilt University), Kristina Rosinski and Shay Bilchik (Georgetown University), Akiva Liberman (Urban Institute).

Following the meeting being called to order by Site Coordinator B. Thomas Wanta, those in attendance introduced themselves. The minutes of the December 13, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved. The Purpose of Detention statement was agreed upon with the aspiration of and the need to develop more alternatives to detention for Milwaukee County youth.

**Statewide JDAI Update (Tom Wanta)**

Lindsey Draper was unable to attend the meeting today, therefore not able to provide updates regarding the Statewide JDAI efforts. It was noted that Manitowoc and Racine counties continue with their JDAI efforts. The DRAI also continues to be developed and is in the planning phase with a draft currently being utilized to compare intakes in detention using the current tool and the new DRAI. At this time, there have been about 75 youth screened using the new DRAI and in comparison with the current tool, there would have been 5 youth released under the new tool. The goal in using the new DRAI is that there will be a decrease in the number of youth detained statewide.

**Discussion of Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative** (Shay Bilchik, Director, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Georgetown University, Kristina Rosinsky, Special Assistant to the Director, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown University, Dr. Mark Lipsey, Director of Peabody Research Institute Vanderbilt University, Akiva Liberman, Urban Institute).

Milwaukee County DCSD has met with 41 contracted agencies and looked at 276 services for the Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative (JJRRI) to look at the type and amount of services youth involved in the DCSD are getting. DCSD is looking at services within a program and not the program as a whole in order to get a more accurate picture of what youth are receiving. A written template is currently being developed to provide feedback to those agencies that participated in the initial phase of the JJRRI. This procedure will be repeated in the fall of 2014 and DCSD should have more risk data available at that time to increase the number of youth and services evaluated. The goal is to provide feedback to agencies in how they can improve the services that they provide using an evidence based tool to look at matching, dosage and types of services based on the risk level of the youth. It was noted that there should be a system that pulls everything together, which is what Milwaukee County is moving towards. One concern noted was that there was a lack of available resources for youth, which was thought to be a contributor to recidivism. This concern was validated, but then shifted to the focus being on what you can control. A dispositional matrix was then discussed and a handout of Florida's dispositional matrix was distributed to all individuals, showing that if you set this up well, it can work to reduce recidivism. The next steps for Milwaukee County is to track what is being recommended for youth by their Human Service Worker, what is actually being court ordered and then recidivism for those youth. This will assist in the development of the Milwaukee County dispositional matrix, which needs to be developed based on what is available for existing resources, identifying gaps and then utilizing the JDAI to assist with these gaps to meet the needs of the youth and the community. The Youth Assessment & Screening Instrument (YASI) needs continuing monitoring by DCSD Quality Assurance staff to ensure that HSW's are consistently assessing youth to ensure the fidelity of the YASI. The long term goal is to have fewer low risk youth going to court and involved in any services or programming and take the services being used on low risk youth now and reinvest into the moderate and high risk youth. It was noted that using a dispositional matrix provides a structure but also allows for an individual's professional judgment and that it will add to the decision making process for the judges. There was a question as to whether all cases will be applicable to the dispositional matrix, but due to this not being developed yet the answer is not known at this time but will be taken into consideration. The use of a dispositional matrix will also help with disproportionate minority contacts (DMC) as it will allow for the equal treatment of all youth. The development of the dispositional matrix will be transparent to all stakeholders and DCSD plans to start developing this matrix by spring or summer of 2014. It was noted that if this works, then youth in the juvenile justice system in Milwaukee County will be a lot better off than they are currently. There was concern noted about the monitoring of using the matrix as youth need to be monitored while in the community, which will be part of the ongoing discussions.

The Standard Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) was then explained to the group, which is an evidence based tool and was compared to a report card of what works and evaluates if everything is working the way that it should. The SPEP allows for a more sophisticated conversation about what does and does not work and evaluating

whether the right youth are in the right services and programs. DCSD has also implemented several policies and procedures effective March 1, 2014 with one of those being contact standards in which HSW's will be required to follow.

The role of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention then explained their role in the JJRRI, which is that they are the funding source for the project. Three jurisdictions were selected to be part of the JJRRI, which include Milwaukee County, the State of Delaware and three Districts in Iowa and all three are in the pilot process of the project.

**Pending RFP (Tom Wanta)**

DCSD has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Evening Report Center, Community Service & Restitution Coordination and Group Home-Transitional Living. All proposals for the three RFP's are due by March 8, 2014. The Evening Report Center and Community Service & Restitution Coordination would be primarily pre-dispositional and piloted starting in the second quarter of 2014. As of right now, the only alternative to detention option is the Saturday Alternative Sanctions Program (SAS) but there is a need for more options and resources. DCSD would be using Early Intervention Grant money, if final approval is granted by the Department of Corrections, to pay for these programs initially. If the programs go well, then the goal would be for DCSD to sustain them in 2015. The initial thought is that an agency would develop resources for community services in lieu of detention sanctions or restitution that would involve an appropriate supervision of the youth involved in the community service activities. The evening report center would be available for youth right after school through the evening time, providing programming and services aimed at reducing the negative behaviors and thoughts that lead to becoming involved in delinquent acts. This report center could also include providing assistance with homework and assistance with getting youth scheduled for medical, dental and psychological appointments.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm with the next meeting scheduled for April 10, 2014.