

**NH JJ Reform Commission
Ethnic and Racial Disparities Subcommittee**

Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: July 28, 2022 10am-11am

Attendees: Eddie Edwards, Department of Safety
Jorge Santana, LICSW
Nicole Rodler, Juvenile Diversion Coordinator
Jennifer Archer, Juvenile Justice Services

Absent: None

Transcriber: Jennifer Archer, Juvenile Justice Services

Meeting Discussion:

The subcommittee worked as a team to review JJS Archer's data and work towards New Hampshire's updated Racial and Ethnic Disparities plan. The plan is submitted yearly with the request for FY funding per the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) requirements. Data reviewed was collected from the Department of Safety crime stats website, SYSC's internal data platform, the Diversion network, and Juvenile Justice Services Bridges platform. Most recent available data across all contact points was pulled from the calendar year 2020. JJS Archer advised population data was collected from OJJDP's easypop website for the age group of 12-17 years old. The group reviewed data in the contact points of arrest, secure detention, diversion, court petitions, and secure commitment. The group noted that Black and Hispanic/Latino juveniles are overrepresented in all contact points in New Hampshire. Ms. Rodler explained the relative rate index as a way to make conclusions regarding the disproportionate contacts within the race categories. The group noted that the population of New Hampshire is predominately White but that White juveniles are underrepresented in secure detention, secure commitment and court petitions. The group discussed the view that a referral to a diversion program is an opportunity and that an overrepresentation in this area should not be considered detrimental yet still considered based upon the relative rate of index. The group discussed the inclusivity that utilizing a biracial/multiracial category has but that it also takes away from other minority data making some determinations challenging.

The group discussed that initiatives it works on not having an impact on data for two years and that numbers we are seeing would have been related to programs and projects worked on by the former SAG group. The group determined a goal of stopping the increase of R/ED and beginning to show a slow decline of 1% per year in each race's overrepresentation until the numbers are reflective of the population data.

The group discussed the need for 'clean' data. Concerns for persons in authoritative positions making decision upon a person's race based upon appearance alone and not asking could impact inaccurate data. The group's goals to affect the disparities include community awareness, building strong teams of community partners, creating a one page document outlining New Hampshire's data and definition of relative terms, and creating a mechanism for collecting data for the transfer to adult court contact point.

The group will continue to coordinate updated data analyzation and efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities.

Next Meeting: August 25, 2022 10am-11am Depart. of Safety 33 Hazen Drive Concord