

**NH JJ Reform Commission  
Youth and Families Subcommittee**

**Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**MEETING DATE:** April 4, 2023 3pm-4pm

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**Attendees:** Haven, Chair / Youth Participant  
Mark Rolon, Parent Participant  
Renee Touhey-Childress  
Lara Gruner-Orf  
Jennifer Archer, Juvenile Justice Services

**Absent:** Geoff Wilson, CASA  
Michael Geha, Salem PD  
Jorge Santana, LISCW

**Transcriber:** Jennifer Archer, Juvenile Justice Services

**Meeting Discussion:**

Haven facilitated introductions for new members joining the subcommittee. Youth membership recruitment needs were reviewed. Executive Director Touhey-Childress advised that information about the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission (JJRC) could be provided to all residential providers in the network with information about youth membership opportunities. Haven reviewed the subcommittee's contribution to the biennial report to the Governor. The group provided feedback and felt that all the subcommittee's actions were outlined.

The subcommittee worked to create questions to be used in an online survey for feedback collection from parents. How to reach parent/guardian/caretakers of youth currently involved in the Juvenile Justice System were discussed. Haven advised on multiple contact points she has with Juvenile Probation Parole Officers (JPPOs) around the state. Mr. Rolon advised that Geraldo Pilarski might have a list of caregivers from the Better Together sessions and kinship programs. Reaching out through JPPOs across the state to email the survey link to parents/caregivers/guardians was discussed. JJS Archer advised of the possible case related feedback that could come from this outreach. Clinical Director Gruner-Orf voiced the importance of their voices regardless of any possible negativity that could be presented. Executive Director Touhey-Childress advised that a disclaimer could be attached to the introduction that states no confidential information is to be provided and that this subcommittee is not in a position to manage direct case related needs. Questions were drafted. Haven offered that the questions be similar to those presented during the youth panel at the Juvenile Justice Diversity Equity and Inclusion Networking Forum. JJS Archer offered that a brief summary of the JJRC's current projection be provided with space for comments. 1. What is one thing Juvenile Justice Services should START doing right away? 2. What is one thing Juvenile Justice Services should STOP doing right away? 3. Please share a positive experience you have had through your child's involvement with the Juvenile Justice System. 4. Please share a negative experience you have had through your child's involvement with the Juvenile Justice System. 5. Has there been a time when you felt that something about your identity impacted decisions made about your child's Juvenile Justice case? (Explanation of Project) 1. Do you believe this is an important project? 2. Could it be done better or differently? 3. How? Clinical Director Gruner-Orf and Executive Director Touhey-Childress will forward their programs surveys to review. Clinical Director Gruner-Orf encouraged the

use of five fun facts about the JJRC to be embedded into the survey to keep it light. JJS Archer will look into online survey platform opportunities DCYF may have.

JJS Archer updated the group on the feedback session held virtually with the Youth Advisory Board (YAB). She reported five youth were present and that positive feedback was received for the juvenile justice jeopardy project and restorative practices project. JJS Archer advised that the incentives project was popular but one youth advised being worried his Juvenile Probation Parole Officer (JPPO) would see this as a bribe and not want to engage in the process. She advised most of the youth were child protection involved and did not have knowledge of the juvenile justice system so time was put into general education. The youth did not have feedback for the assessment process legal consultation or location projects. JJS Archer update on coordination with Sununu Youth Services Center (SYSC) for a youth feedback session. She updated that subcommittee member CASA Wilson is assisting in the presentation and collection of feedback.

The subcommittee worked on plans for its table and participation in DCYF's Youth Summit. Through this discussion, the subcommittee collaborated around the creation of a mission statement and tag line. Mr. Rolon proposed the mission statement, "To foster equal and mutually respectful partnerships between, Youth, Birth Parents, Caregivers, Agency Staff and Community Partners working together, combining experiences to better the system for all." Haven and Clinical Director Gruner-Orf blended statements to propose the tag line, "Sharing our stories to inspire one and other to reach for success." The subcommittee will host a contest for the creation of a visual logo for the JJRC. The messaging for contest will include details about the JJRC and be forwarded to residential directors and JPPOs for dissemination. The subcommittee decided the prize would be a MP3 player with Bluetooth earbuds and music download gift card. The subcommittee decided the raffle item for the Youth Summit that the JJRC provides would be a Nintendo Switch. The subcommittee will continue to work on plans for the informational table SWAG items.

### **Next Meetings:**

SYSC feedback session (Geoff Wilson and Jennifer Archer) 5/1/23 1pm-2:30pm

Youth and Families Subcommittee 5/2/23 3pm-4pm

JJRC Meeting 5/8/23 9am-11am