

Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission

Ethnic and Racial Disparities Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Subcommittee Co-Chairs: Commissioner Edjron Pearson and Commissioner Sharlen Moore

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| Subcommittee Members Present: | Wendy Volz Daniels, Commissioner Edjron Pearson, Commissioner JP Rotatori, Aaron Schutz, Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Melissa Graham, Muskadee Montano |
| Subcommittee Members Not Present: | Commissioner Charles Greer, Commissioner Sharlen Moore, Brandon Gross, Commissioner Kenna Tripple, Commissioner Charles Tubbs, Jr., Kyle Peaden |
| Other GJC Members Present: | Commissioner Tweed Shuman |
| Wisconsin DOJ Staff: | Kiley Komro, Kerry Fanning, Sabrina Gentile, Lara Kenny, Matt Allord |

Convene

The Ethnic and Racial Disparities (ERD) Subcommittee convened at 10:00 a.m.

Chair's Welcome and Roll Call

Commissioner Edjron Pearson welcomed members to the meeting. Quorum was present.

DOJ Updates

Grants

Kiley Komro reported three grant announcements have closed and the scoring is complete for the Compliance System Improvement grant, Local Delinquency Prevention grant, and Family-Based Incarceration Prevention and Reentry Services grant. The next steps will be to make award recommendations to the Attorney General's office and process awards. Komro expects the grant programs to begin on April 1, 2024.

Komro reported there are three non-competitive grants posted on the DOJ Grant webpage and the GJC website.

1. Youth Gang Diversion Balance of the State – This funding opportunity is available to designated agencies to provide services “for the diversion of youths from gang activities into productive activities, including placement in appropriate educational, recreational, and employment programs.” Programs must serve youth and are encouraged to target

specific at-risk youth based on identified risk factors, rather than all youth in a community.

2. Youth Gang Diversion and AODA Prevention Milwaukee – This funding opportunity is available to the Milwaukee Social Development Commission to provide services “for the diversion of youths from gang activities into productive activities, including placement in appropriate educational, recreational, and employment programs” and to support their programs designed to prevent and treat youth alcohol, and other drug abuse (AODA). The program must serve youth and are encouraged to target specific at-risk youth based on identified risk factors, rather than all youth in a community.
3. Juvenile Deflection and Diversion Implementation Program – This funding is available to Manitowoc County Department of Human Services and Phillips School District or their designated partners to implement the comprehensive juvenile deflection and diversion program designed under the Juvenile Deflection and Diversion Program Grant (2023). The program implemented must aim to increase the community’s ability to effectively deflect youth away from arrest and justice system involvement. Programs should provide treatment and services that address youth’s risk factors and needs.

Compliance

Matt Allord reported the Compliance Monitors are almost done with the compliance audits of secure agencies.

Staff

Allord reported the Juvenile Justice Coordinator position has been posted on the Wisconsin Jobs website. The position will assist with data collection, analysis, and entry and collaboratively draft or revise existing procedures/forms to keep current with changing federal requirements. The position will schedule, attend, and under the close supervision of the supervisor, lead meetings or training sessions with stakeholders.

This position will also perform data collection, analysis, planning, and presentation activities related to the juvenile justice system including the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) and Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED). Allord encouraged the Subcommittee to share the job posting with their networks.

Business

Commissioner Pearson asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the January 17, 2024, meeting.

Motion to Approve January 17, 2024, ERD Subcommittee Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner JP Rotatori and seconded by Subcommittee member Wendy Volz Daniels to approve the January 17, 2024, ERD Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 7 Ayes, 0 No

Juvenile Deflection and Diversion Factsheet

Komro presented the draft factsheet. Komro highlighted sections specifically requested by the subcommittee during its initial review. The factsheet is almost final. Komro asked for specific feedback on example activities that reduce disparities and bias as well as other comments on the design.

Subcommittee members provided the following example activities to reduce disparities including: Commissioner Pearson reported Dane County Juvenile Detention Center hosts the *Black History Month Breakfast* annually in February. Subcommittee member Melissa Graham reported there are the *National Night Out* events and that is a chance for community members to connect with law enforcement and other local resources in a fun and laid-back environment. Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson reported the New Berlin Police Department is starting a basketball night with local youth.

Matt Allord suggested the approval of the factsheet should be scheduled at the April ERD Subcommittee meeting. The Subcommittee agreed so Komro will add the factsheet approval to the April ERD Agenda.

R/ED Disparity Data Factsheet: Resource List and Talking Points

Komro reported she created a PowerPoint that can be used to present the R/ED Disparity Data Factsheet information to stakeholder groups and decision-makers. Komro reviewed the PowerPoint.

Commissioner Pearson acknowledged the Factsheet and PowerPoint are ready for stakeholder presentations and the Subcommittee should identify these groups. Commissioner Pearson said that he would like the presentation made to the Dane County Juvenile Judges at their monthly meeting.

Subcommittee member Graham complimented the Factsheet and the PowerPoint and noted this presentation is needed in Milwaukee County and would like to help set up the presentation. Graham mentioned the Milwaukee Community Justice Council, Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorneys, and Judge Derek Mosley with the Lubar Center for Public Policy Research and Civic Education at the Marquette Law School as potential audiences.

Subcommittee member Wendy Volz Daniels reported there is the Milwaukee County Race, Equity, and Procedural Justice Annual Conference that is usually held in April. Allord added that Commissioner Carl Ashley often invites GJJC members to the conference.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Announcements

Subcommittee member Volz Daniels reported the *Raise the Age Coalition* has a website with information that would interest the Subcommittee. Allord noted Gentile contacted the Coalition and arranged to have the GJJC added to the list of groups supporting Raise the Age on the website. Komro noted the Raise the Age Coalition is also a link the GJJC Resources webpage.

Komro reminded members of upcoming Youth Voice Commission meetings and topics. Members are encouraged to invite youth in their networks to attend.

Commissioner Pearson reported Dane County Juvenile Detention Center has hired a graduate student for a research project regarding how detention and incarceration effects mental health. Detention and incarceration have been recognized as a public health issue by some agencies.

Allord reported he will be attending the Office of Children's Mental Health Unconscious Bias Training on March 25, 2024. Judge Derek Mosely is the trainer.

GJJC ERD Subcommittee Virtual Meetings:

- April 17, 2024
- September 18, 2024
- October 16, 2024

GJJC Quarterly Meeting

- May 14, 2024: Virtual
- August 13, 2024: Virtual
- November 12, 2024: Virtual

Commissioner Pearson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Wendy Volz Daniels and seconded by Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 7 Ayes, 0 No

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.