

Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission

Ethnic and Racial Disparities Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

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

Subcommittee Members Present:	Wendy Volz Daniels, Commissioner Edjron Pearson, Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Kim Jenkins, Muskadee Montano, Brandon Gross, Commissioner Charles Tubbs, Melissa Graham
Subcommittee Members Not Present:	Aaron Schutz, Commissioner Sharlen Moore, Commissioner Mariama Ceesay, Commissioner Charles Greer, Commissioner Evelyn Coker
Wisconsin DOJ Staff:	Kiley Komro, Kerrie Fanning, Lara Kenny, Matt Allord, Sabrina Gentile, Jessica Reindl
Other Agency Staff:	N/A

Convene

The Ethnic and Racial Disparities (ERD) Subcommittee convened at 10:02 a.m.

Chair's Welcome and Roll Call

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

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

Motion to Approve April 17, 2024, ERD Subcommittee Minutes

Motion was made by Subcommittee member Brandon Gross and seconded by Commissioner Charles Tubbs to approve the April 17, 2024, ERD Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 8 Ayes, 0 No

Commissioner Pearson asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the September 18, 2024, meeting.

Motion to Approve September 18, 2024, ERD Subcommittee Minutes

Motion was made by Subcommittee member Brandon Gross and seconded by Subcommittee member Melissa Graham to approve the September 18, 2024, ERD Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 8 Ayes, 0 No

DOJ Updates

Grants – Matt Allord reported DOJ received a federal Youth Crisis Stabilization and Reentry discretionary grant. The program aims to fill gaps in Juvenile Detention Centers mental health and substance use disorder assessment, treatment, and reentry services. The program will fund and train facility staff in evidence-based mental health and substance use disorder screenings and assessments. The program aims to increase the availability of treatment for these disorders within facilities and for youth reentering the community.

There will be more local grant opportunities posted in 2025.

Compliance – Matt Allord reported DOJ Staff has started tasks for the compliance audits and the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act Annual Survey has been sent to all law enforcement agencies. DOJ staff plans to do about 50 on site audits and record reviews. The compliance period is October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024.

DOJ staff noted that if any subcommittee members are interested in seeing an audit, they can contact Matt Allord to discuss.

Staff – There were no staff updates.

Business

Dr. Chris Bijoux- Deputy Director for Equity and Racial Justice Georgetown University

Dr. Bijoux used a PowerPoint and videos to discuss strategies for messaging information on racial inequities to advance positive change.

Agenda Ideas for 2025

Commissioner Pearson reported the DOJ Staff is gathering agenda items for 2025 and asked the Subcommittee what topics they would like to learn more about at ERD Subcommittee meetings.

Subcommittee member Kim Jenkins said she would like to learn more about messaging on racial inequities from Dr. Bijoux.

Commissioner Pearson said he would like updates on the new Racine Juvenile Detention Center that will open in 2025, counties placing kids at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools, and a presentation from DOC Division of Juvenile Corrections.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Announcements

Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson reported the Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services is hosting a Power and Purpose Youth Summit on Saturday, October 19, 2024, at UW Milwaukee. Commissioner Robinson shared the link with the Subcommittee.

Matt Allord reported DOJ Staff is working with the Bureau of Justice Information and Analysis and the Department of Children and Families to get more county level data related to disparities in the juvenile justice system. Allord said they will start with smaller counties to see what data is available. The DOJ goal for 2025 is to be able to present this information to the ERD subcommittee and use it to address strategies for intervention with the counties themselves, and any relevant state agency stakeholders. Commissioner Pearson asked what the initial data review suggested about which counties face the largest disparities. Matt Allord noted that there were several where disparities for African American youth were high, and those will be presented with the data at an upcoming meeting, and DOJ staff are also focusing on multiple counties in the Northern area of the state where Native American disparities are also prevalent.

GJJC Quarterly Meeting

- November 12, 2024: Virtual

Adjourn

Commissioner Pearson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion was made by Subcommittee member Brandon Gross and seconded by Subcommittee member Kim Jenkins to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 7 Ayes, 0 No

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.