



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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## Juvenile Justice and Youth Development Policy Board MINUTES May 1, 2023

**Policy Board members:** Mary Abboud, Danielle Benford, Jon Green, Ann Santos, Trevor Templeman, Susan Vileta, Emily Voss (JCAO), Brad Barker (IC Recreation), Chris Wisman (JC Sheriff), Laurie Nash (staff)

**Contractors:** Tony Branch (UAY), Olanthda Fields (NCJC), RaQuishia Harrington (NCJC), Amy Kahle (UAY), Talia Meidlinger (UAY), Michael Shaw (RVAP), Daleta Thurness (BBBS)

**Approve February meeting minutes; motion by J.Green, second A.Santos. Approved unanimously.**

**Review of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Reports** that were provided in the Google folder along with summary highlights. **S.Vileta motion to accept reports, J.Green second. Approved unanimously.**

**Discuss FY24 Contract Renewal requests and review requests for change.** Dream City and UAY Youth & Family Advocacy request no changes. Other requested changes are minor and do not change target audience, delivery method, program content, or anticipated outcomes. BBBS adds clarifying language. NCJC YELL re-organizes groups and expands sites. O.Fields expects program to catch up this summer with sessions that were missed in the school year; program year ends June 30. RVAP adds other school districts.

For ARPA funded programs, UAY Positive Youth Development requests no changes. NCJC G! World proposal has a substantial change. L.Nash spoke previously with Rachel Rockwell and RaQuishia Harrington regarding proposed changes. Did not reapply for VOCA funding for G! World. County request changes target audience (originally girls of color), changes delivery locations (move to IC neighborhood centers instead of district-wide secondary schools), changes delivery method from group-based to more individual/case management, changes curriculum from Girls Circle to EleMentS. Also want to provide services during school time for maximum flexibility. For those reasons, the review committee and ARPA team feels the changes are too substantial to be considered a renewal. R.Harrington provided additional information about the request, noting that community needs have changed and the programming they were doing is no longer the best fit.

**J.Green motion to recommend renewing JJYD contracts for Big Brothers Big Sisters, Dream City, NCJC YELL, UAY Youth & Family Advocacy and for ARPA JJYD for UAY Positive Youth Development. Second by S.Vileta; approved unanimously.**

Recommendation for unencumbered ARPA JJYD is to re-issue those funds via RFP for 2-years at \$48,000 per year for positive youth development to address youth violence prevention.

**M.Abboud motion to issue new RFP for \$48,000 for one year with up to 1 renewal. Second by T.Templeman; approved unanimously.**

**Pre-Charge Diversion Expansion update** provided by T.Branch and A.Kahle.

“Other” allegations were most referrals and have been for assault. All but 1 out of 12 participants have successfully completed the diversion program. Family mediation process for one complicated circumstance along with collaboration with crisis response, mediation, and counseling. All individuals/families are receiving some UAY service.

Substance Use had 5 referrals and completed first class. Incredibly positive feedback from youth and families. Utilized a harm-reduction approach which was very well received. Interventions are tailored to youth and the specific circumstances of their allegation and circumstances. Surprised at low number of referrals for substance-related offenses.

Diversion provides opportunities for discussion with parents, education about brain development, and sharing preventive tools for parents.

One parent wrote that they believe this process was more impactful for their student to prevent future events than a charge and a fine.

One father shared his concerns about a potential spiral for his child with anxiety and depression. Concerned that this would result in loss of extracurricular activities which are protective factors and that could in turn lead to additional negative consequences throughout the child's senior year as a result of one night's bad decision.

Expressed his thanks that the school was not notified and his child was able to continue the pro-social activities that they love and the child received education about how to make better choices.

Question about direct communication between law enforcement and schools and how that is impacting outcomes. T.Meidlinger shared that UAY is discussing with law enforcement about what diversion entails, that it is not the absence of consequences, and that it is based on research and evidence-based practices that promote pro-social supports. It is also designed to support equity and diminish disparity.

**Policy & Practice: School Substance Use Policies at Community & Family Resources.** S.Vileta and L.Nash are both part of the work group addressing school-based policies related to substance use in 5 Johnson County school districts (Clear Creek Amana, Iowa City Community, Lone Tree, Solon, Regina). Utilizing a useful research-based checklist to evaluate current policies and make recommendations for consideration. Goal to infuse diversion/intervention into policies. How does this policy provide not only consequences but also address intervention and future prevention? Jordan Gallagher with NL Police Department has experience with Marion Police Department working in partnership with Marion Schools to provide services and supports in collaboration with law enforcement.

**Policy & Practice: School Notification by Law Enforcement.** Subgroup to explore issues and make recommendations. Goal is to have finished before legislative session starts. If anyone has examples of policies/practices to share, please do so. Anyone interested in participating on the subcommittee should contact L.Nash.

**Upcoming Joint Planning meetings** with Decat, CPPC, Prevent Child Abuse, etc. First session to understand initiatives and second to engage in joint priority setting, etc.

**Next Meeting: Monday, August 7, 2023 3:30 – 5:00 in-person preferred**

**Adjourn at 4:45 pm.**

Questions about these minutes and requests for future agendas can be directed to:

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