

**Juvenile Corrections Technical Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2008**

**Attending:**

Cheryl Huenink, WCHSA President and Dunn County Director via phone; Wendy Henderson, WCCF; Julie Wesenberg, WCCF Intern; Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Wisconsin Counties Association; Eric Meaux, Milwaukee County, Mark Mertens, Outagamie County; Lynn Green, Dane County; John Crest, Wood County; Ann Wondergem, Sheboygan County; Silvia Jackson, Michelle Buehl, Audrian Brown, Elaine Olson, Sue Boeke, Jocelyn Petersen, Christopher Gomes and Wes Ray, DJC.

**I. Introductions and Minutes**

Silvia Jackson convened the meeting and welcomed the group. The minutes of the May 2, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Mark Mertens made a motion to approve the minutes and Ann Wondergem seconded it. The minutes were approved as written.

**II. Legislation**

Chris Gomes distributed an updated list on the status of municipal ordinances concerning sex offender residences across the state, as well as a Guide to Understanding Sex Offender Municipal Ordinances handout that described key terms. Chris pointed out communities that have passed an ordinance since the last TAC meeting in May.

Chris then addressed the key terms as provided in the Guide to Understanding Sex Offender Municipal Ordinances handout. He encouraged members to read the ordinances for their county, as definitions of what key terms like “residency restriction” or “loitering restriction” varies from community to community. Chris provided examples of Municipal Ordinances of Sex Offender Placements for South Milwaukee, Brookfield and Caledonia to emphasize the difference. Chris is developing a document to post on the web site with the municipal ordinances concerning sex offender residences across the state. For each community, he will provide a link for the restriction that will explain what those restrictions mean specifically for the city, town or village.

The question was raised as to whether DJC is considering providing information to the stakeholders in the communities on the implications of including juveniles in their Municipal Ordinances of Sex Offender Placement restrictions. Silvia Jackson informed the group this is something Gretchen and Chris are currently working on. Ann Wondergem offered to use the City of Sheboygan and Sheboygan Falls as a pilot for these efforts.

### **III. County Training Needs**

Michelle provided a progress update on the juvenile court intake training curriculum and web-based curriculum development. All topics have been covered by volunteers. Workgroup meetings will resume September 17, 2008, with a goal to implement the new change in training after the June 2009 training.

Silvia asked if there were any training needs the members felt they had for their counties. No training needs were identified at this time.

Silvia reminded the Committee that at the last meeting she discussed Jim Moeser's proposal for additional training in *What Works, Wisconsin* using funds provided by OJA and the JJ Commission. OJA and the JJ Commission recently made a proposal to the Southern Regional Training Partnership to discuss the possibility of utilizing the Training Partnership to help implement some form of evidence-based training to counties. The Southern Regional Training Partnership agreed to this proposal.

### **IV. Workgroup Report on Alternative to HSRS Reporting**

Wes Ray briefed the group on the work of the juvenile justice (JJ) data collection workgroup, which has been meeting to identify the HSRS items counties wish to report on in the area of delinquency services. Effective January 1, 2009, the CORE module of HSRS will no longer collect child welfare or juvenile justice data. As of 2009, counties may choose to use either eWiSACWIS or the survey developed by the workgroup and administered by DJC.

The committee reviewed the counties' choice of reporting format and the list of reporting items identified by the workgroup. Six Standard Program Categories (SPC) were selected by the workgroup. The proposal involves Milwaukee County reporting on 10 SPCs since they do not enter Juvenile Justice information into eWiSACWIS. The workgroup has developed a narrow list of reporting items for counties. Discussion ensued about the items. Some members felt that detail was lacking regarding the Community Treatment Services cluster. The workgroup currently has two items listed in this category: Juvenile Probation and Supervision Services, and Juvenile Reintegration and Aftercare Services. People felt these distinctions were not adequate to describe what services the some 40, 000 youth get in the community while they are under court supervision with counties. Various service elements such as counseling, intensive supervision, electronic monitoring, day treatment, crisis intervention and victim restitution collection were not delineated. A decision was made to reconvene the workgroup to consider a more comprehensive look at services provided by counties. Silvia Jackson will join the workgroup for the discussion and John Chrest will participate by phone as well. The issue will be reviewed by the WCHSA Board at the November meeting instead of the October one as planned.

DJC will send a numbered memo to counties explaining the new Reporting System before the end of the year, as the reporting period begins in January of 2009. DJC needs the name of the county staff person who will be completing the survey so that an email link can be sent to them. At the end of the year, DJC and DCF will collaborate to generate an outcome report which contains annual county Juvenile Justice aggregate information.

**V. Update: Legislative Council on High Risk Juvenile Sex Offenders**

Silvia briefed the group on the work thus far of the Legislative Council Study Committee which will hold its third meeting on September 16, 2008. Sarah Hammond from the National Conference of State Legislatures will be attending the next meeting to discuss juvenile justice policy in other states. The Missouri model of juvenile corrections will also be examined at a future meeting. Silvia distributed a paper written by the Ohio Department of Juvenile Corrections on the Missouri model.

**VI. Discussion of WI Juvenile Risk Assessment Tool**

Elaine Olson presented background information on the WI Delinquency Risk Assessment and Classification system. The original system was developed and revalidated over 10 years ago by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD). Counties were initially trained on use of the system and training continues to be provided on a "request" basis by DJC staff. The risk assessment tool is overdue for another re-validation study. Complete information on counties use of the original system or other available delinquency risk assessment options is lacking. Jocelyn Petersen provided some information on two systems: PACT (Positive Achievement Change Tool) and JAIS (Juvenile Assessment and Intervention System). It was noted that Portage and Marathon counties are implementing the PACT system created by Assessments.Com. Items for the committee's consideration were outlined and included the option of conducting a survey of counties to determine current use of delinquency risk assessment tools. It was noted that Ann Wondergem will be reporting back at the WCSHA Spring Conference in 2009 as a follow-up to a presentation about PACT at this year's conference. It was agreed that DJC would conduct a brief survey of counties now to obtain a picture of current practice in the state.

**VII. County Round Table**

In the interest of time, the regular round table was omitted, but two items were covered: Wendy Henderson gave a brief summary about a study of 17 year olds in the adult correctional system. The study was completed by WCCF and looked at outcomes of 1000 17 year olds who had been convicted since 2001. An analysis of recidivism was completed by tracking youth in the Wisconsin Consolidated Court Information Program (CCAP). The average follow-up period was over six years. Outcome results showed high rates of repeat criminal behavior particularly among

youth who had received the most frequent adult sentence of jail time. This group showed the highest recidivism rate at 80 percent. Also, similar to other studies, this one showed high rates of incarceration for African American youth compared to other racial groups in the state.

Silvia noted the Department's 2009-11 biennial budget is soon due to the Department of Administration (DOA).

**VIII. Dates/topics for future meetings**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 10:00am – 12:30pm in the Secretary's Conference Room located in Central Office.