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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES  
NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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**NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MINORITY/GENDER COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**May 13, 2015**

**DRAFT**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Hibbler at 5:33 p.m.

**Roll Call – Pauline Salla**

Members Present by Phone: Lisa Morris Hibbler, Paula Smith, Egan Walker

Statewide Task Force Members Present by Phone: Ali Banister, Lynette Gust,  
Fritz Reese, Craig Tippens,

Members Excused: Kirby Burgess, Noah Jennings, Dawn Lozano, John Martin, Raymond  
McKay, Ivet Santiago, Lonnie Wright

Staff Present by Phone: Pauline Salla, J. Alice Mueller

**Public Comment and Discussion**

There was no public comment.

**Review of Official Minutes from April 8, 2015 Meeting**

There was no quorum so the minutes from the April 8, 2015 meeting could not be voted on.

**Technical Assistance Planning – Pauline Salla**

The Effective Police Interactions with Youth technical assistance is focused on disparate treatment at the first point of contact, arrest. There is disparate contact throughout the state at this point of contact, and the training will present law enforcement with alternatives and education along with ways to make the system color blind.

This technical assistance will consist of a one day overview, followed by a three day train the trainers. Both of these will most likely be held in southern Nevada. As many people as possible will be invited to the one day overview so that there will be sufficient interest in sending staff to the three day training. The one day training will occur near the end of July with the three day training scheduled for around the third week of August. This will allow it to be held close to the Quarterly Full Juvenile Justice Commission's August Meeting.

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For now, the various law enforcement agencies are requested to send in referrals from their communities on who would be interested in attending both meetings. Ideally, there would be a three day training in both the north and the south, but until it is determined that there are enough resources, all training will be in the southern part of the state. Those referred for the trainer classes do not have to be law enforcement; commission members, and probation department personnel can also be certified. The important part is that they are willing to train law enforcement within their own communities and be committed to addressing disparate treatment. Specialist Salla agreed to send out a quick summary of the technical assistance along with an application that could be read and forwarded, in order to receive recommendations.

When word of this technical assistance first came out, several law enforcement agencies wrote letters of support for it. The summary and application should help to refresh their memories, and encourage many to attend the training. Co-Chairman Hibbler agreed to bring it along to a chiefs meeting and place it on the agenda as a topic of discussion. Washoe County and the rural counties also need to be approached. Any of the commissioners who wish to receive the training could use commission funds to assist with their travel expenses. Commissioner Smith suggested that the Statewide Native American Coalition or the Tribal Chiefs of Police Association should get involved as train the trainers. The important thing is to get individuals throughout the state trained as trainers. That way, law enforcement could be continually trained as they add to their staff.

### **School to Prison Pipeline – Dr. Morris Hibbler**

There haven't been any recent community meetings on the School to Prison Pipeline, but there have been meetings about the proposed assessment center. Commissioner Martin recently met with Clark County School District Superintendent Skorkowsky, Clark County Social Services, the Department of Family and Youth Services, Clark County School District Police and the Clark County Undersheriff. The group is working on a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and among other things, has discussed data sharing. There is currently a bill working its way through the Legislature, SB58 which would make it easier to share data between the district and the juvenile justice departments. They are also working with the National League of Cities and using their models of change framework on the local MOU. Early disproportionate minority contact (DMC) intervention relies on knowing who is in the various systems and using the proper assessment tools. Community Outlooks currently has a juvenile assessment tool which seems to be very comprehensive. It acquires a lot of information which can be used by multiple agencies.

The concept of an assessment center is not new, with other cities farther along in their development. Initiating one was thought to be very difficult, but everybody has come together. They understand that it is a good alternative for youth who do not need a detention facility. That wrap around services can also be obtained is definitely a plus. The next step is identifying the type of services that need to be in the assessment center, what hours it should be open and how referrals would work. What is nice is seeing all the agencies sitting around the same table, on the same page, talking, and excited. To hear the undersheriff make the recommendation not to delay or wait for somebody to give approval, but to move forward, is great.

### **Minority and Gender Membership – Pauline Salla**

At the last meeting it was determined through an examination of the bylaws that Chairman Burgess could appoint or remove members of the Minority and Gender Committee. Among the Juvenile Justice Commissioners, it is desired to have those who are very interested in minority and gender issues and willing to put forth effort to work on them.

## **DRAFT**

The Stakeholders are also being reviewed as there are individuals who have not attended for several months. As a group, they have been members of the committee for about the last four years. In that time, many have moved into other positions and are now not able to attend. What would be best, are representatives from several disciplines including the University system both north and south. Committee members were asked to submit names and contact information for individuals they felt would work well in the committee. Chairman Burgess will be kept updated on this with modifications made to the committee based on his approval.

### **2014 DMC Relative Rate Index Data – Pauline Salla**

Information on the 2014 DMC Relative Rate Index in the form of charts was distributed at the last Minority and Gender meeting. Specialist Salla had requested feedback on which represented the data most effectively. She had received some feedback but was open to any more which might be forthcoming.

### **Review of the DMC Component of the Three Year Plan – Pauline Salla**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) recently sent out a Request for Applications (RFA) which detailed adjustments made to the Three Year Plan. They altered much of what is expected from the state including the addition of Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and separation of the DMC portion of the submittal. Actually, the changes were quite extensive and different from what had been discussed in the specialist's calls. With such a short turnaround time, this has been cause for concern.

The DMC portion has been problematic in the past, as there was no apparent improvement. Last year, the National Council for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) provided assistance and Nevada was deemed to be in compliance. With this year's proposed technical assistance, there should be some movement in the implementation of state programs that will address disparate treatment. Part of the frustration is that when the specialists request information on evidence based programs which could affect points of contact, no helpful information is provided. It is difficult to be held accountable when no guidance is provided on programs that work.

Much of the DMC submittal is going to focus on data analysis and comparisons. A narrative will accompany and explain the Relative Rate Index charts. This narrative section will be sent out to the committee members and stakeholders with request for feedback. Included with this will be the application to OJJDP so that it can be seen what they are asking the states to provide. There will be a phone conference in June so that the DMC section can be approved.

### **New Business**

Rennae Daneshvary recently contacted Specialist Salla about a chance to apply for funding with Kids Count. This would be from the Annie E. Casey Foundation and focuses on juvenile justice reform in areas of disparate treatment. Kids Count already receives statewide and county data from the Office of Juvenile Justice. This would result in the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, helping with research on DMC data with a \$30,000.00 a year grant. The research and evaluation would help in preparing the Three Year Plan and allow more analysis of the relative rate index. A copy of the grant will be sent to the committee members. At this point it would appear that the Juvenile Justice Commission would just review but not necessarily need to approve it.

With the two technical assistance programs, this and the Effective Police Interactions, there will be a need to focus on which points of contact to work on. The question is if different points of contact should be selected or more attention given to just a few. The two programs will be compared to see what the best course of action is.

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Other new business is that Nevada was one of six states selected to receive technical assistance and training in reducing isolation in juvenile facilities from the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA). They will provide the technical assistance and analyze data, provide support and information on alternatives to using isolation. Included with this is a CJCA tool kit which should assist in reducing isolation.

Nevada also has a team at the state level that was accepted for the youth in custody certificate program. This will be held at Georgetown in July and will run for a week.

### **Comments from Public**

No members of the public were present, and there was no public comment.

### **Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting**

The next Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday June 10, 2015 at 5:30 pm. This will be a phone conference.

#### **Agenda:**

Technical Assistance Planning

School to Prison Pipeline

Minority and Gender Committee membership

Election season discussions on DMC

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m. by Chairman Hibbler.