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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**

**June 1, 2016**

**DRAFT**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman John Martin at 5:02 p.m.

**Roll Call – Alice Mueller**

Members Present by Phone: Dawn Lozano, John Martin, Lisa Morris Hibbler, Paula Smith, Egan Walker, Lonnie Wright

Members Excused: Noah Jennings

Staff Present by Phone: Leslie Bittleston, J. Alice Mueller

Members of the Public Present by Phone: Cheri Ely, Lynette Gust, Craig Tippens

**Public Comment and Discussion**

There was no public comment at this time.

**Review of Official Minutes from April 27, 2016 Meeting**

Commissioner Lozano moved that the April 27, 2016 minutes be approved with a second from Commissioner Wright. The minutes were approved by the Committee.

**Specific Strategies for DMC of African American Youth – Jack Martin**

Commissioner Martin has reached out to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Clark County School District while Commissioner Morris Hibbler has contacted the Clark County Black Caucus and other elected officials. They wished to speak with a number of individuals about the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) issues involving African American youth. The topic of discussion centers on reducing DMC at specific points of contact. Tyrone Thompson is setting up a DMC summit in Las Vegas although Commissioner Morris Hibbler has not yet heard back from him at this point.

## **DRAFT**

With the next legislative session starting in February 2017, this committee needs to make sure that the senate is aware about DMC. It should be remembered that members of the juvenile justice commission cannot make recommendations, they can however let people know if something of value comes from the proposed DMC summit.

Last summer, a group was brought out from the east coast to conduct DMC training on the first point of contact. Unfortunately, this training did not adequately address the needs of juvenile in Nevada. A lot of enthusiasm was generated around the concept of developing training specific to this region. All involved are looking for existing quality contract training that could be adapted. A DMC committee made up of contacted individuals will work together, making something from the ground up if necessary.

The root cause of disproportionality will be sought. They will examine what is going on in the district, including the types of students who are being referred to the juvenile justice system. Clark County Juvenile Probation has an amazing data system that can be used to determine where the escalation points are for these students. Where are the points of intervention that have been missed? Often times, a student will participate in an alternative to incarceration program, and yet still escalate. For the past 18 months, approval for this data has been sought, and is now becoming available.

The practices developed could end up being used statewide. Research protocols will be shared with anyone wishing to try them. Perhaps the northern part of Nevada could receive assistance from the University of Nevada, Reno. It is important to share sources, and best practices between the counties.

### **School to Prison Pipeline Update – Jack Martin**

Much of the work in southern Nevada is being put into the proposed assessment center. They are looking at an October start date. If this is strategically located, connections can be made with many youth, especially youth of color who seem to be entering the system in disproportionate numbers. If they can be connected to services before making formal contact with the system, it will be better for everyone. Ongoing details are available for those who request this information.

### **New Business**

Alice sent out information on “Following the Data Policy Grant Proposal- University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada Kids Count, Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Juvenile Justice System in Nevada”. Rennae Daneshvary, from Nevada Kid’s Count, contacted Chief Bittleston about reviewing the grant proposal. She was provided with some data and is doing research on the racial and ethnic disparities in Nevada. Ms. Daneshvary asked if the Juvenile Justice Commission would be future partners with this work if the grant is approved. Chief Bittleston agreed to be partners. The report was added for information to the commission. She requested that the committee review and if they would like more information, to contact Ms. Daneshvary.

Commissioner Martin brought up that Carlos McDade, the Clark County School District General Counsel had been contacted concerning research on early DMC interventions. He has assisted in putting together some Memorandums of Understanding (MOU). About 300 names and birth dates have been selected, together with appropriate confidentiality papers. The school district has agreed to compare these names with their academic situations, including if they are receiving free or reduced school lunches and if they are on track to graduate.

## **DRAFT**

This will be very generic data, but should allow cases to be reviewed and perhaps start to build an educational profile of what sends youth into the juvenile justice system. It is anticipated that there will be some evidence of failures in the system which when addressed will allow for further analysis.

### **Comments from Public**

Craig Tippens was invited to speak on what was being done in the Eleventh Judicial District as far as DMC. He said that everyone was very interested in the work being done in Clark County and felt that the rest of the state could learn quite a bit from their work. Generally, all one hears about is what is being done in the southern part of the state, whereas the entire state is experiencing DMC. The rural counties for the most part, do not have the same resources to deal with it.

Mr. Tippens explained that with the addition of Mineral County, to the Eleventh Judicial District, they now had a more diverse population. There have not been enough referrals yet for them to get a good data set. As they complete their first year, this should change. This could provide some idea on how the new district will shape up.

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

The next Committee Meeting will be on July 13, 2016 at 5:00 pm and will be a teleconference.

Agenda:

Specific Strategies to address DMC in African American Youth, emphasis on training.

DMC summit plans and ideas.

School to Prison Pipeline

### **Adjourn**

Co-Chair Martin moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:16 p.m.