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**Nevada State Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission
Data and Performance Measurement
Committee Meeting 01/16/18**

Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Call to Order: Co-Chair, Brigid Duffy called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

Roll Call:

Via Phone: Gianna Verness, Brigid Duffy, Jo Lee Wickes, Rebekah Graham, Patrick Schreiber, Judge Egan Walker, Alexis Tucey

Absent: Assemblyman James Oscarson, Judge Thomas Stockard

Staff Present: Leslie Bittleston, Sarah Bellows

Guests Present: Melissa Sickmund, Dr. Matthew Leone, Nancy Arrigona

Public Comment: None

December Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 12/11/17 approved by Commissioner Patrick Schreiber, seconded by Gianna Verness and the rest of the Committee.

Committee Report and Other Notes

No updated report because there have been no meetings since.

Recidivism Discussion: Definition and Measurements

Co-Chair Duffy pulled together some information for the committee, defining recidivism provided by Webster's dictionary- wording was changed to say "a child" who offends. Co-Chair Duffy expressed having a multi-level definition of recidivism, that follows youth throughout the system. According to the Data Dictionary, recidivism occurs when an offender is arrested, charged, and/or adjudicated within 3 years of the original committing offense. The goal is to collect data that measures the effectiveness of our Juvenile Justice System.

There will be different measurements depending on the level of care and the youth's level of commitment to the state.

Co-Chair Jo Lee Wickes like the definition of recidivism provided by Co-Chair Duffy. Ms. Wickes shared that a challenge is to measure the effectiveness of informal consequences to avoid court for misdemeanor or technical charges for youth already under probation/parole/or formal care. Ms. Wickes would like to create a way to measure this data effectively.

Melissa Sickmund from the National Center of Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) advised that this group remain as flexible as possible, especially with timeframes and data collection. The state may find that some youth currently offending, may need multiple services at one time to reduce likelihood of recidivism. Ms. Sickmund expressed the importance of being able to track youth that enter the adult system as well. The NCJJ has recently started to move away from the term recidivism, as it is connected to the adult system and the likelihood of adults reoffending when released from the Adult System. Ms. Sickmund suggests collecting information specific to the original committing offense, and any subsequent offenses or charges. This information can help distinguish whether offenses are getting more or less serious.

Mr. Schreiber introduced the idea of performing a Risk and Needs Assessment at the beginning of care and upon release, to hopefully implicate a positive change and success of programs during the time the youth is in the system.

Ms. Sickmund shared a website with the group called www.JJGPS.org. This website is used to track recidivism rates and displays data via tables and graphs. Ms. Sickmund advised collecting data that differentiates county, institution, length of time in placement, etc. It is important to reflect this information because a Youth that may not be successful at a county camp or state facility, may find success at a different location/placement if given that opportunity. The goal is to measure the effect (positive/negative) the system has/had on the youth offender.

Mr. Leone expressed concern that data is being collected and inputted accurately. We, the state, needs more background information on every youth; for example: a youth may have failed out of a program prior to state commitment, however, if the offender successfully completed portions of his/her terms and conditions, those successes should be measured and accounted for. It is important to capture what has led the youth to this position, to recognize not just what works, but what works for whom.

This group must ensure that data is not only being collected, but that it is also being inputted accurately to reflect the offenses, the youth, etc.

Commissioner Judge Walker reiterated the fact that legislation was created to tie funding to

evidence-based programming; however, if data isn't entered, money cannot be collected.

Previously, the state of Florida began a Program Accountability Measure that looked at recidivism rates, success rates and cost rates collectively. The goal of this was to provide technical assistance and give them (the states) tools to succeed. Data in general, will be used as part of a "tool kit" to verify the success and find ways to make positive changes in areas that need adjustment.

Ms. Sickmund gave an example that the state of Pennsylvania has decided to do. The state is very interested in evidence-based practices; however, there are multiple programs across the state that are titled "home-grown programs." Working with Vanderbilt University, the state created the Standard Protocols for Evaluation of Programs. With the creation of this, programs do not need to be evidence-based from the start but need to have a data collection system or be working toward a way to reflect success or other measures. Several years ago, the state of Pennsylvania established what is known as the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. This allowed for the state to skip the legislation process and begin training on programs, as well as the evidence-based resource center.

Dr. Leone believes this is very promising work, helping establish the successes and failures throughout counties, then states, and eventually onto nationwide.

Mr. Schreiber emphasized that the state recognizes that the "starting point" in the juvenile justice system is not necessarily the same for all youth offenders. While medical research shares specific information studied regarding specific diseases, youth in our state (and all others) have varieties of issues and demands that need to be addressed on an individual basis. He would like to see as much background data on youth as possible, so we can accommodate the needs of that individual youth.

Co-Chair Wickes shared that the Commission has selected the YLS tool for Risk and Needs Assessments. This information can become variables for the analysis to determine what is/is not working for the state's youth.

Ms. Sickmund identified Mr. Mark Greenwald, Research Director, with the state of Florida as a contact for Co-Chair Duffy to reach out to, for further information or questions regarding the state's implementation of reform.

Identifying Performance Measures from Referral to Case Closure

There were no performance measures identified in this meeting. As this committee moves forward with the definition(s) of Recidivism, measures will be adopted and implemented into the reform plan.

Assign Tasks to Members

Co-Chair Duffy will work on a committee report. She will also reach out to Mr. Greenwald in hopes of meeting with him or having time to discuss questions about Florida's state reform.

Data Start Point for CaseloadPro Conversion

Ms. Tucey will be sending an email to counties who have not been converted over to CaseloadPro yet. There are 6 counties that need to prioritize their conversions. Ms. Tucey will work with the counties to help prepare them for the conversion, ensuring data is accurately collected and depicted in the new system. The state is also in the process of identifying what data and measures already exist in CaseloadPro, and what may need to be created to best fit our state's needs. There are expectations to negotiate user fees as YLS and the MAYSI, the selected Risk and Needs Assessment and Mental Health Screening Tools, are bridged into the CaseloadPro data.

Next Steps: Date for next meeting: February 5, 2018 at 1:30pm.

Public Comment: None

Adjourned: by Co-Chair Brigid Duffy, seconded by Co-Chair Wickes and moved by committee members.