

Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee Minutes
(Unofficial until approved)
Video Network Conferencing
March 28, 2014

Members Present:

Hon. Lisa Fair McEvers, Chair
Hon. Todd Cresap
Hon. Steven McCullough
Referee John Grinsteiner
Senator Larry Robinson (telephone conference)
Dawn Deitz
Shawn Peterson
Valerie Potter
Lisa Nihill
Brett Anderson
Harlan Johnson
Deborah Davis

Members Absent:

Hon. Thomas Merrick
Hon. Karen Braaten
Hon. Donovan Foughty
Steve Mottinger

Guests:

Aleesha Ward
Nicole Burkhartsmeier
Terry Styf
Melody Peterson
Karen Kringlie
Kim Hegvik
John Gourde
Sean Anderson
Jason Anderson
Sherrice Roness
Sara Ellenwood
Hon. Sonja Clapp
Jacob Havig
Christie Thelen
Brian Washburn
Brooke Selle
Troy LeFevre
Kristi Wieland
Patty Rime
Vanessa Weber

Staff:

Marilyn Moe

The Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee met through videoconferencing on March 28, 2014. The meeting was called to order by Justice Lisa Fair McEvers, Chair. Due to technical issues impacting videoconferencing, a quorum was initially not present. In the absence of a quorum, Justice McEvers asked the committee to consider the team reports until all the IVN sites were operational and a quorum present.

New Business:

Team Reports - Valerie Potter reported for the Minot Juvenile Drug Court team. Minot currently has three participants in the Juvenile Drug Court Program. There were two graduations and one termination during this reporting period.

Aleesha Ward reported for the Fargo Juvenile Drug Court team. Currently Fargo has twelve participants with two participants pending. There was one graduation and one termination since the last reporting period.

Vanessa Weber reported for the Devils Lake Juvenile Drug Court team. Devils Lake currently has three participants. There were two terminations, two suspensions, and no graduations during this reporting period.

Sherrice Roness reported for the Bismarck Juvenile Drug Court team. Currently Bismarck has ten participants. There were no terminations or graduations during this reporting period.

Sara Ellenwood reported for the Grand Forks Juvenile Drug Court team. Grand Forks currently has five participants. There were three graduations and two terminations during this reporting period.

Stutsman-Barnes County Juvenile Drug Court's report was sent by email. Stutsman-Barnes County currently has three participants. There were three terminations and one suspension during this reporting period.

Statewide One-day Training - Marilyn Moe informed the committee that a statewide training is scheduled for October 10, 2014, at Cambria Conference Center, West Fargo, ND. This training involves team training and will cover team building and behavior modification through incentives and sanctions.

Upper Midwest Drug Court Conference - The Upper Midwest Drug Court Conference is scheduled for October 7-9, 2015, Cambria Conference Center, West Fargo.

At this point in the meeting, a full quorum of committee members joined the meeting.

Justice McEvers asked for approval of the December 6, 2013, minutes. **Senator Larry Robinson moved to approve the minutes of December 6, 2013. Deborah Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Old Business:

Treatment - Senator Larry Robinson expressed concerns regarding the shortage of addiction counselors, beds, and facilities for those needing addiction or mental health treatment services. He asked the committee for support and for a unified approach to bring before the legislative assembly. Senator Robinson suggested that this committee express drug court's concerns to the Alternatives to Incarceration Committee, and other committees, and advocate for a response to the treatment issues before the budget is prepared for the next biennium. Deborah Davis, who serves on the North Dakota Board of Addiction Counseling Examiners, explained the Department of Human Services now pays a stipend for addiction counselors who must complete the nine month internship before they can work as an addiction counselor in North Dakota. Justice McEvers asked about the reciprocity requirements and if the board was considering changing the number of hours required for internship. Deborah Davis explained that interns must complete 1,400 hours of training before they can become licensed in North Dakota. Patty Rime, Juvenile Court Supervisor from Devils Lake, met with Human Services and was informed that they are not reducing the internship hour requirements. Deborah Davis explained that to help ease the shortage of licensed addiction counselors and mental health counselors, the Department of Human Services has developed a new classification for an addiction and mental technician that allows interns to be hired by an agency while they are completing training. Patty Rime stated that the salary for addiction counselors and mental health technicians is significantly lower in North Dakota, making it difficult to attract addiction counselors from other states.

Patty Rime stated that Devils Lake has had a problem with the level of treatment services in the Devils Lake area. Judge Sonja Clapp expressed that the adult drug court in Grand Forks has a licensed addiction counselor that is dedicated to their court. They currently have 20 participants and are pleased with the services. Kristi Thelen, probation officer for adult drug court in Grand Forks, stated that through the Department of Corrections, the Grand Forks Adult Drug Court has access to the Tompkins Rehabilitation and Corrections Center. John Grinsteiner stated that the Bismarck Adult Drug Court also has access to that center. Deborah Davis also stated that the Grand Forks Human Service Center has sent their counselors to Tompkins Rehabilitation and Correction Center for training in Cognitive Restructuring, which has helped their program.

John Grinsteiner stated that problems do exist with inpatient treatment for adolescents. The Bismarck Juvenile Drug Court has looked at Minnesota and Montana for inpatient programs because of the shortage of beds in North Dakota. There are currently nine beds for adolescents for the whole state at the Youth Residential Service facility located in Bismarck.

Deborah Davis stated that Blue Cross Blue Shield is now scrutinizing the outpatient treatment programming as they have the inpatient treatment programming which will substantially affect the availability of treatment across the state. She stated a lack of available detoxification beds is also a problem across the state.

Melody Peterson, a licensed addiction counselor from the Southeast Human Service Center, informed the committee that two years ago a meeting was held to discuss the issues with inpatient residential availability. Melody Peterson suggested the committee include Alex Schweitzer and JoAnne Hoesel in this discussion to provide information on how the block grant dollars work in regards to treatment services. Deborah Davis also stated that grant dollars were received to establish the Youth Residential Service facility in Bismarck.

In response to a question by Justice McEvers, Senator Robinson requested the committee to prioritize the issues for the Governor before the legislative budget for the next session is finalized. Deborah Davis informed the committee that the Interim Human Services Committee has hired Schulte Consulting to collect data on all behavioral health issues in the state. She recommends committee members attending forums with the Schulte Consulting voice their concerns so they are appropriately identified in the report. Vanessa Weber, Devils Lake, indicated she had attended a meeting with Schulte Consulting and informed the committee that they also have a website.

Senator Robinson asked the committee to consider testifying at the Alternatives to Incarceration Committee. Justice McEvers stated that she serves on the Alternatives to Incarceration Committee and that Chairman Ron Carlisle of that committee has asked that the Department of Corrections and the Department of Human Services include money for more providers in their budgets. John Grinsteiner suggested that committee members submit their treatment issue priorities and send them to Marilyn Moe. This priority list will include information from the adult and juvenile drug courts. Marilyn Moe will compile the information and contact someone from the committee to present the issues at the next Alternatives to Incarceration meeting on April 28, 2014.

Program Manual Revisions - Marilyn Moe reported that the subcommittee established for the revisions of the program manual met and drafted the revised program manual for the JDC Advisory Committee. Marilyn Moe explained that the appendixes in the program manual do not need to be reviewed at this meeting. The appendix includes the individual court's paths, tracking, drug testing, and special projects. The body of the program manual must be approved by this committee and then will be presented to the court for final approval. Marilyn Moe also stated that after the committee goes through the content and approves, the manual will be corrected for grammar errors and spelling by Supreme Court staff.

The committee members along with the team members went through the manual revisions suggested by the subcommittee and discussed the revisions. There was lengthy discussion on the expungement of a participant's record. Shawn Peterson explained to the committee members that the current JDC policy states that dismissing a participant's record after two years is in conflict with Supreme Court Policy 403. Dismissing the record should be changed to expungement of the record and also Supreme Court Policy 403 states that a juvenile can request expungement of their record at any time. To be consistent, the committee agreed to change the current JDC dismissal policy to an expungement policy and to follow Supreme Court Policy 403. Marilyn Moe asked that each court go over the remainder of the manual for their individual court materials. All changes must be sent to Marilyn Moe within the next two weeks to be included in the revised

manual.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Moe