

**Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee Minutes**  
(Unofficial until approved)  
Cambria Conference Center, West Fargo  
October 1, 2015

**Members Present:**

Hon. Lisa Fair McEvers, Chair  
Senator Larry Robinson  
Hon. Todd Cresap  
Hon. Steven McCullough  
Hon. Lolita Romanick  
Hon. John Grinsteiner  
Valerie Potter  
Brett Anderson  
Shawn Peterson  
Steve Mottinger  
Sara Nicoli-Christensen

**Members Absent:**

Hon. Donovan Foughty  
Hon. Thomas Merrick  
Harlan Johnson  
Dawn Deitz  
Lisa Nihill

**Guests:**

Nicole Burkhardtmeier  
Sean Anderson  
Scott Hopwood  
Sara Ellenwood  
Brian Washburn  
Kristi Wieland  
Mikayla Jablonski Jahner  
Jeremy Ward  
Scott Hopwood  
Troy Lefevre  
Kimber Hasbargen  
Curt Brown  
Karen Kringlie  
Jodi Bass  
Chad Faken  
Jolee Feist  
Elsie Motter  
Dennis Mansavage  
Cindy Halvorson  
Vanessa Weber  
Maren Halbach  
Tausha Pfenning

Deborah Davis  
Terry Styf  
Carrie Francis  
Nicole Leitner  
Alyssa Olson  
Carl Martineck  
Travis Rau  
Pam Quinn

**Staff:**

Marilyn Moe

The Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee met on October 1, 2015, at the Cambria Conference Center. Justice Lisa McEvers called the meeting to order. **Judge Todd Cresap moved to approve the minutes of March 13, 2015. Deborah Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Justice McEvers welcomed everyone and new team members, Chad Faken, Hon. Lolita Romanick, Jodi Bass, and Kimber Hasburgen, were introduced.

**New Business:**

**Team Reports -**

Sara Ellenwood, coordinator, reported for the Grand Forks Juvenile Drug Court team. Grand Forks currently has six participants in the program. The participants and team members provided community service for troops overseas and attended a presentation by Elizabeth Smart who spoke on her abduction and life. National Drug Court Month was celebrated with the annual bowling event.

Valerie Potter, coordinator, reported for the Minot Juvenile Drug Court Team. Minot currently has six participants. There were two terminations and no graduations during this reporting period. The Minot Juvenile Drug Court received donations for incentives from People's State Bank of Velva-Minot Branch and the St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation. Minot Juvenile Drug Court received a grant from the NDSU Extension Office to plant a community garden. The participants were involved in planning, planting, maintaining and harvesting the garden. The produce was donated to the local food pantry. Chad Faken is the new law enforcement representative and Stacey Berger is the new treatment provider from North Central Human Service Center in Minot.

Cindy Halvorson, coordinator, reported for the Devils Lake Juvenile Drug Court team. Devils Lake currently has five participants. There was one graduation and one termination during this reporting period. The participants and team members volunteered at various Devils Lake activities during the summer months. The team revised the participant handbook and created a participant and parent questionnaire to provide them the opportunity to respond in court with their answers. The team added an incentive that gives a participant the opportunity to choose two team members to have a dinner with. This incentive has been rewarding for both the team members chosen and the participant as it provides a time for them to learn more about each other on a personal level.

Tausha Pfenning, coordinator, reported for the Bismarck Juvenile Drug Court team. Bismarck currently has six participants in the program. There were two terminations and one graduation during this reporting period. The participants and team members did various community service projects throughout the spring and summer. Blankets were made for Carrie's Kids for youth and families in need. The participants and team members participated in the March Into The Light during Recovery Month in September. In March, the team developed a new incentive point system and has seen positive results.

Kristi Wieland, coordinator, reported for the Stutsman-Barnes County Juvenile Drug Court team. Stutsman-Barnes County currently has four participants in the program. There were two graduations and no terminations during this reporting period. The participants were involved in various community service projects. Service projects included working with the Jamestown Police Department and the local food pantry. The male participants were involved in the Equip Program and the female participants were involved in Girls Group during the summer months. The team traveled to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference in Washington, D.C. The team along with the Fargo team had the opportunity to meet with Senator John Hoeven and Senator Heidi Heitkamp and discussed issues pertaining to North Dakota's Juvenile Drug Court Program.

Judge Steve McCullough reported for the Fargo Juvenile Drug Court team. Fargo currently has 15 participants in the program. There was one graduation and four terminations since the last reporting period. The team has lengthened Path 2 from six weeks to twelve weeks. The team has created an incentive called Rocket Docket that allows participants to leave court early for a compliant week. The participants were involved in community service projects with the United Way School Supply Drive, the Ronald McDonald House, and the YWCA.

**National Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference** - Judge McCullough spoke for those that attended the conference in Washington, D.C. The Fargo and Jamestown/Valley City Juvenile Drug Court teams met with Senator Heidi Heitkamp to discuss treatment issues in North Dakota and what assistance the federal government could provide the Juvenile Drug Court Program in North Dakota. Elsie Motter, treatment provider for Jamestown/Valley City, stated that they talked about providing forgiveness loans to potential addiction counselors in North Dakota to entice new licensed addiction counselors to the state. Brian Washburn from Jamestown, who also attended the conference, stated that after attending the workshops at the conference, he felt that North Dakota's Juvenile Drug Court Program is following the 16 Key Components.

**Service Awards:** Justice Lisa Fair McEvers thanked the group for their service and commitment to juvenile drug court. Certificates of service were presented to Judge McCullough, Judge Foughty, Scott Hopwood, Carrie Francis, Sara Nicoli-Christensen, Shawn Peterson, Jennifer Barstch, Maren Halbach, Doug Broden, Ruth Jenny, and Ryan Hanson for five years of service to juvenile drug court. Nicole Leitner was recognized for 10 years of service to the Fargo Juvenile Drug Court Program and Deborah Davis for 15 years of service to the Grand Forks Juvenile Drug Court. Steve Mottinger and Ron Schneider were recognized for 15 years of service to the Fargo Juvenile Drug Court Program.

**Old Business:**

**N.D.R.Juv.P.18** - Shawn Peterson, Juvenile Court Director, reported that N.D.R.Juv.P.18 was approved by the Supreme Court. N.D.R.Juv, pertains to drug testing, monitoring and detention. This Rule does not pertain to Juvenile Drug Court as N.D. Sup. Ct. Admin. R.#56 states if a child is ordered to participate in the Juvenile Drug Court Program, Rule 56 governs the treatment of the child.

**Legislative Update** - Senator Larry Robinson thanked the attendees for all the work they do with Juvenile Drug Court. He encouraged the group to contact their local legislators to stress the importance of increased mental and addiction counselor treatment dollars. Deborah Davis stated that the North Dakota Association of Drug Court Professionals will make it a priority to contact local legislators along with Senator Hoeven, Representative Cramer, and Senator Heitkamp. Senator Robinson also encouraged the attendees to reach out to the Alternatives to Incarceration Committee to support improvements for addiction and mental health issues.

Next Meeting Date: April 15, 2016

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Moe