CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, June 25, 2015
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Mike Lawlor, Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; Carleton J. Giles, Chairman, Board of Pardons and Paroles; Dora B. Schriro, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; Scott Semple, Commissioner, Department of Correction; Dr. Norko, Director of Forensic Services, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Loel Meckel, Assistant Director, Forensic Services Division, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Nancy Turner, Director of Offender Risk Reduction, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Kevin Kane, Chief State’s Attorney; Chief James Kenny, Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association; Sergio Rodriguez, State Department of Education; Joette Katz, Commissioner, Department of Children and Families, Erika Sasson, Director of Restorative Practices, Center for Court Innovation, Steve Grant, Executive Director, Court Support Services Division, Susan Storey, Chief Public Defender, Division of Public Defender Services, Mark Shock, Adult Services Program Manager, Department of Social Services

I. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented.

II. Welcome and Policy Update

Chairman Lawlor convened the meeting. He welcomed everyone and announced that CT-N will be taping the meeting. Chairman Lawlor has spent the last 6 months working in the Governor’s office, to implement the Second Chance Society proposal, which passed in the Senate. It didn’t make it in the House by the constitutional deadline, but it will be a part of the special session, and it still has broad bipartisan support. The call to special session will be looking at police misconduct which includes a wide range of things, and its final outcome will affect many in this commission. Chairman Lawlor reviewed Chart 2a and Chart 5 in the Monthly Indicators Report. In the legislature’s analysis of the Second Chance Society bill, the Office of Fiscal Analysis attributes a 1,150 reduction in the total prison population to that bill by itself over the next year. The budget assumes the closure of two prisons over the next two years. Earlier this week the population dropped under 16,000 for the first time in 18 years.

As a part of our federal grant process, under the JAG allocation, we need to talk and think about our priorities which include:

1. Support Second Chance Society Initiative
2. Improve oversight and monitoring of high risk offenders and oversite of victims
3. Reduce gun violence and prevent illegal trafficking of firearms
4. Improve interventions for mentally ill offenders
5. Expand treatment and interventions for women offenders

It is worth mentioning that we are also prioritizing our youngest offenders and reducing racial disparities.
Link to CT-N coverage: http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11711


III. Approval of Minutes from April 30, 2015

The May 2015 meeting was cancelled because a number of people around the table were invited to Washington, D.C for the MacArthur Grant Acceptance awards ceremony. The minutes were approved from the April meeting.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. Presentation I: Methadone 101: Lauren Siembab (Director of Community Services Division, DMHAS)


Presentation II: The Safety and Justice Challenge: Erika Sasson (Center for Court Innovation)

http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11711 (30:04)
-Connecticut was the only state of the jurisdictions selected
-Awarded planning grant of $150,000 plus technical assistance from Center for Court Innovation and data analysis assistance from City University of New York
-Required by end of year to have a plan to reduce jail population and racial disparities
-10 jurisdictions selected to go onto next phase: $2 million each year for at least two years, with an opportunity to extend

Presentation III: Trip to Federal Republic of Germany: Commissioner Semple (CT-DOC)

http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11711 (59:14)
-Some highlights included: “preventative detention”, “day fines”, a focus on socialization vs recidivism, and brain development in juvenile cases. For all of the details please click the link above.

VII. Agency Updates

Members provided updates on their agencies and latest initiatives.
http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11711 (1:33:30)

States Attorney Office – Received a grant from the Center for Court Innovation to look at how prosecutors are making decisions.
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) – Narcan update: trained all troopers and other emergency responders to administer Narcan, to reduce number of accidental opioid overdose deaths. State Police have intervened in 30 cases and have 28 saves. LAP (Lethality Assessment Protocol) started last October, and has been used for the first two quarters when state police responded to domestic violence calls (almost 300 DV calls); 169 of 295 calls the victim was at high risk of immediate danger and every single one of them accepted offer to be connected to a domestic violence provider in the area by phone and all of them have followed up with the providers.

Chiefs of Police Association (CPA) – Chief Hayes from the Putnam Police Department will be the president and representative to CJPAC for the upcoming year.

Department of Children and Family – JJPOC previously set goals for there to be a 20% decrease over a three year period. They have far surpassed that, with a reduction of 42% in one year, due to a 6 month length of stay protocol, family engagement and successful reintegration. Behavioral health is being emphasized and embraced and they implemented more programs. With all of the savings from being able to reduce congregate care at DCF, .79 of every dollar has been able to go back to the community. Racial disproportionality is a theme of everything they do. DCF recently hosted a day-long workshop with kids and police departments to have conversations and it was successful, courtesy of MacArthur and Martha Stone.

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) – Just over half of law enforcement agencies in state use LAP; pleased at collaboration between subcommittee and CSSD with help in providing standards for batterer intervention programs. They are continuing to provide active shooter training and were awarded a contract with DSS to conduct the health professional outreach project in collaboration with CT Children’s Medical Center and Hartford Hospital, and last week they held the first meeting of the Statewide Medical Advisory Council.

State Department Of Education (STE) – They are looking to expand the school based diversion initiative, which looks into reducing arrests in 10 school districts.

Board of Pardons and Paroles (BOPP) – Updates are provided in the Monthly Indicators Report.

Division of Public Defender Services – Thank OPM’s Lisa Seconda, for support in developing Juvenile case management system, and the adult version will be up soon. This will give more real time information to help clients, assist with the Second Chance Initiative and arraignments. They are working in collaboration on a pilot program with DOC’s Dr. Mauer, in Bridgeport for opioid dependent people. Also, they are partnering with Families in Crisis and IMRP on studying the impact of incarceration of primary caretakers of children and how that impacts families. There will be upcoming trainings on Miller-Graham.

Judicial Branch-Court Support Services Division (JB-CSSD) – Adult Probation was reaccredited, they received a 100% score. They are seeing the juvenile population decline as well. (The New Haven detention center was closed in 2010 due to this trend.) Treatment Pathway Pilot Program was able to divert 21 pre-trial low-risk offenders from jail.
**Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)** – Trained a total of 2,094 people with a 5 day-40 hour training for police officers and others on dealing with people in a mental health crisis.

**Department of Social Services (DSS)** – Partnered with DOC to start a pilot program to help people leaving prison to receive medical assistance upon leaving prison, rather than closing medical assistance when people are incarcerated, they will place a hold on their account and upon their release, they can release a lock on their case, rather than have the person re-apply. DSS won’t pay for services while they are in prison, except for inpatient medical care, which is federally reimbursed. Part of the pilot includes a process change; DSS won’t put a lock on their case until the second month they are in the report, which recognizes that a lot of people are in and out rather quickly.

**Subcommittee Updates/Reports** – Nothing new to report

**Prison and Jail Overcrowding Committee (PJOC)** – MacArthur Grant was discussed as well as partnerships including programs like MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment), Treatment pathways, alt to incarceration DMHAS.

**Adjournment**

Chairman Lawlor adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.