

## Youth Justice Committee

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Location: **Teams Meeting**  
Date: Friday, 10/7/2022  
Time: 10:00 A.M. CDT

**Staff Present:** Richard Kennedy, Exec Dir., Craig Hargrow, Dep. Exec. Dir., Kate Keese, Intern, Bill Latimer, Melissa McGee, Steve Petty, Vicki Taylor, Rob Burke, Shaun Noblit

**Commission Members Present:** Rob Mortensen, Chair, Judge Sharon Green, Dr. Altha Stewart

**Commission Members Absent:** Charmaine Kromer, Amy Jones, Judge Robert Philyaw, Glenda Terry, Cameron Carver, Stan Settles, Michael Rediker

1. **Call to Order -**

There was no call to order due to the lack of a quorum.

2. **Approval of August 2022 Youth Justice Meeting Minutes (ACTION)**

There was no approval of minutes due to lack of a quorum.

3. **Staff Updates**

**CASA Grants Management – Shaun Noblit for Russette Marcum-Embry**

FY 22/23 program contracts have been executed. Expense reports (July and August) for the five programs that invoice TCCY monthly have been submitted to TCCY Accounting for payment. Marcum-Embry will be reviewing and submitting first quarter expense reports throughout the month of October. She continues to support CASA grantees with technical assistance as needed.

# MINUTES

TN CASA has notified TCCY that there will likely be three new counties added this fiscal year. These counties will be part of expansion efforts by existing multi-county programs.

At the time of this report submission, the TCCY fiscal team is working on a budget amendment for TN CASA Association for the newly allocated \$200,000. The FY 22/23 budget is now \$311,000.

Two interns joined TCCY from the UT College of Social Work. Kate Keese and Therese Sipes are both pursuing an MSSW. Both have already added value to the agency's work through their respective contributions. Kate and Therese will be with TCCY through May 2023.

Marcum-Embry continues to serve as both CASA Grant manager and Ombudsman Program Director for TCCY.

Marcum-Embry serves on the Wilson County Foster Care Review Board, the UT College of Social Work Field Advisory Committee, the Children and Families Chapter of the USOA, and as TCCY/Kennedy's representative on the Council on Developmental Disabilities.

## **Federal Formula Grant Update- Vicki Taylor**

TCCY's Compliance Monitoring manual was revised and submitted to OJJDP for approval. OJJDP approved Tennessee's Compliance Monitoring Manual on August 12, 2022.

TCCY received notice of approval for FY21 Title II Grant application. A revised budget must be submitted to align with award amount of \$943,299.

The Youth Justice division is in the process of closing out the Title II Grant awards for 2018.

FY22 Title II Formula Grants application was submitted. Additional information was requested relating to an explanation and page numbers of changes made.

The JJ Specialists sent out solicitations in June for new grant proposals. Applications were due in to TCCY by July 29, 2022. Grant review committee held on August 9, 2022, and grant awards were made by full commission on August 19, 2022. Nine new grant programs awarded will start October 1, 2022. Special conditions for the grants were

received and approved by the JJ specialists. Accounting is preparing contracts.

The F.I.N.D. Design applicant submitted an Appeal on 9/1/2022 regarding GRC comments/special conditions related to requested personnel salaries and whether this program is a best practice model/evidence-based program. The TCCY Appeal Process is being followed and the GRC will convene to review the grant.

### **Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders Update- Shaun Noblit for Zanira Whitfield**

Whitfield reported the FY 2021 compliance monitoring data was in uploaded into the OJJDP Compliance Monitoring Reporting Tool and submitted to OJJDP by the August 2022 due date. For the current compliance monitoring cycle (10/1/21 to 9/30/22) there have been 25 DSO violations. Youth Justice staff and Regional Coordinators continue to monitor facilities and provide technical support.

### **Grant Monitoring Update- Shaun Noblit for Wendy Pickering**

Pickering has completed all Grant Monitoring for FY 20/21.

Pickering has approved all Corrective Action Plans submitted thus far.

Pickering has completed the Central Procurement Office – Subrecipient Monitoring Plan for 2023 and submitted it for supervisor approval.

Pickering has begun Grant Monitoring for FY 21/22.

Pickering has worked with other staff members to gather documentation from grantees for missing FY 19/20 files.

### **Racial and Ethnic Disparities- Shaun Noblit**

The Youth Justice team moved forward with the R/ED proposal submitted by UT Health Science Center. The Grant Review Committee recommended the grant proposal, and the entire Commission/State Advisory Group approved the grant for \$60,000.

Noblit participated alongside other members of the TCCY staff in testifying to the Juvenile Justice Ad Hoc Committee. TCCY testified on the agencies efforts around

# MINUTES

Youth Justice, model programs Tennessee could mirror, data around changing Tennessee's Youth Justice system, and recommendations to the committee.

Noblit continues to serve on the DCS Racial Justice Workgroup and is a member of the Policy Committee. The DCS Racial Justice Workgroup is working on using SafeMeasures to collect race and ethnicity data for the children they serve to determine whether and where disparities occur. SafeMeasures is Internet-based reporting service from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, a global nonprofit research organization. SafeMeasures uses analytics to help social service agencies achieve better outcomes, improve service, and operate more effectively. Noblit has asked the group to look at and compile data on children involved specifically in the youth justice system.

Noblit planned and scheduled the first Council on Youth Justice meeting for October 19, 2022. The group will help pull Youth Justice serving agencies out of silos, highlight the struggles and successes of the Youth Justice work in Tennessee, and offer opportunities for collaboration.

Noblit was invited to participate on a panel discussion at the Systems of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) conference. Noblit is tasked with speaking on the struggles and the needs of the Youth Justice System in Tennessee.

#### 4) **Motion to Adjourn**

There was no motion to adjourn due to lack of a quorum.

Prepared by: Shaun Noblit