



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

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**JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

Andrew Jackson Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Conference Room  
Thursday, February 11, 2016  
2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Members Present**

Genesis Hardin  
Jennie Harlan  
Bill Haynes  
Lisa Hill  
Rob Mortensen  
Christy Sigler  
Audrey Taylor Gonzalez  
Glenda Terry

**Members Absent**

Phil Acord, Chair  
Amy Jones

**Staff Present**

Craig Hargrow  
Steve Petty  
Vicki Taylor  
Nancy Townsend  
Zanira Whitfield

**Guest Present**

Denise Bentley,  
Tennessee Youth  
Courts, Inc.

I. Welcome and Introductions – Jennie Harlan, Acting Chair

Harlan called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m., welcomed all present and thanked them for their attendance. Introductions were done.

II. Approval of Minutes (ACTION)

**IT WAS MOVED (HARLAN) AND SECONDED (TERRY) TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 2015 JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

### III. Juvenile Justice Grants – Vicki Taylor

Taylor reported the Three Year Plan was submitted and TCCY was awarded \$722,756 from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP); \$217,000 is available for new grantees. Federal Formula Grant Request for Proposals (RFPs) were distributed in December for three categories: System Improvement, Delinquency Prevention and Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC). We received nine grant applications: seven were Delinquency Prevention and two were System Improvement.

The Grant Review Committee (GRC) and Juvenile Justice staff met February 10, 2016 to discuss, score grants and make recommendations to the full commission.

### IV. Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Update – Vicki Taylor

Taylor reported the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) grant project period ended December 30, 2015. The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS) submitted their final invoice and TCCY will close out this award in March. A small amount of money remains and Central Accounting plans to charge the amount towards Planning and Administration of the grant.

### V. Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) Violations – Zanira Whitfield

Referring to the handout which was distributed, Whitfield discussed the DSO Violations Report. The total number of DSO violations from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015, was 42 with zero jail removal violations and zero jail separation violations.

### VI. DMC Task Force Update – Craig Hargrow

Hargrow reported the Hamilton County DMC Task Force met on November 16, 2015 and was chaired by Rosalind Leavell-Rice, Southeast Regional Coordinator. During the course of the meeting, the task force discussed the definitions of the points of contact. Hargrow will be going back to provide technical assistance.

On November 17, 2015, the Davidson County DMC Task Force met and decided to work with Napier Elementary School as a DMC pilot for restorative practices. The task force met with teachers, students, principals and families to kick off the pilot project on January 26, 2016. The pilot project will provide support and guidance to ensure students do not enter the juvenile justice system.

On November 19, 2015, Hargrow participated in a Shelby County JDAI steering committee meeting.

On January 6, 2016, Hargrow met with the Madison County DMC Task Force and presented an analysis of the data collected by the task force for the years 2013 and 2014. The task force chose to address the Arrest point of contact.

Hargrow reported Knox County has been removed from the list of DMC task forces due to lack of activity.

Blount County is in the process of gathering data from juvenile court. Hargrow has made himself available to Knox and Blount County tasks forces for technical assistance.

Hargrow continues to serve on the Steering Committee for the Positive and Safe Schools Advancing Greater Equity (PASSAGE), an initiative that aims to lower racial and other disparities in school discipline through creating school and community partnerships. On November 20, 2015, Hargrow attended a presentation and Steering Committee meeting where national data was presented on the School-to-Prison Pipeline and how Nashville compares to the national data.

VII. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Update – Craig Hargrow

Hargrow reported the reauthorization of the JJDP Act has not passed due to two holds in the Senate. Whitfield mentioned the last time the Act was reauthorized was in 2002.

Hargrow reported he continues his work with the 2014-2015 Policy Academy-Action Network Initiative entitled “Improving Diversion Policies and Programs for Justice-Involved Youth with Behavioral Health Disorders: An Integrated Policy Academy-Action Network Initiative.” Hargrow traveled to Washington D.C. on November 16, 2015 to help present Tennessee’s final report. Although the 2014-2015 Policy Academy-Action Network Initiative has come to a close, Hargrow continues to serve on the Core Team to help continue the work of helping courts use appropriate screening and assessment tools to appropriately divert youth from the juvenile justice system. Shelby County was the local pilot project site. The Shelby County Juvenile Court used the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment tool (CANS) to help divert youth out of the juvenile justice system. Hargrow attended a meeting on February 8, 2016 in Memphis to share the findings from the final report.

VIII. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes Approved by:

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Vicki Taylor  
Juvenile Justice Specialist

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Jennie Harlan  
Acting Chair