



**Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission  
Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family**

1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission (AJJC) was convened on February 7, 2019, at the Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family, 1700 West Washington Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (19)	
<b>Cindi Nannetti, Chair</b>	<b>Shawn Cox</b>
<b>Helen Gándara</b>	<b>Navin Crump</b>
<b>Maria Dodge</b>	<b>Alice Bustillo</b>
<b>Dennis Pickering</b>	<b>Greg McKay</b>
<b>Dorothy Wodraska</b>	<b>Debra Olson</b>
<b>Robert Thomas</b>	<b>Christina Schopen</b>
<b>Leslie Quinn</b>	<b>Joseph Grossman</b>
<b>Joseph Kelroy</b>	<b>Mindy Flannery</b>
<b>Vada Phelps</b>	<b>Jeff Hood</b>
<b>Jane Kallal</b>	
Staff/Guests Present (10)	Members Absent (11)
<b>Maria Cristina Fuentes, Director, GOYFF</b>	<b>Donald Walker</b>
<b>Timothy Ryan, Maricopa County Superior Court</b>	<b>James Beene</b>
<b>Steve Selover, Program Administrator, GOYFF</b>	<b>Shaun Rieve</b>
<b>Rebecca Chesley, Program Administrator, GOYFF</b>	<b>Jason Holmberg</b>
<b>Livia Finman, ASU Intern, GOYFF</b>	<b>Guadalupe Durazo</b>
<b>Raquel Gonzales, ASU Intern, GOYFF</b>	<b>Tom Callahan</b>
<b>Beth Broeker, ADJC</b>	<b>Robert Brutinel</b>
<b>Melissa Watkins, ADJC</b>	<b>Jose Gonzales</b>
<b>Cheri Clark, Maricopa County Superior Court</b>	<b>Earl Newton</b>
<b>Charles Flanagan, Public Member</b>	<b>Heather Carter</b>
	<b>James Molina</b>

**Call to Order**

- **Ms. Cindi Nannetti, Chair**, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. with 19 members and 10 staff and guests present.

**Introductions**

- **Ms. Nannetti, Chair**, asked members to introduce themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, requested a review of the December 6, 2018, meeting minutes.
  - **Mr. Joseph Grossman** motioned to accept the minutes as drafted.
  - **Ms. Vada Phelps** seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

### Trauma Informed Courts

- Presiding Juvenile Court Judge **Timothy Ryan** from the Maricopa County Superior Court provided an overview of using trauma-informed practices in the juvenile court. The presentation included background of his individual experience of moving into juvenile court and the process of expanding Cradle to Crayons, a program developed for babies, into other jurisdictions as it was shown to have a positive effect on older populations served by the court.
- **Mr. Ryan** described the trauma involved in the removal of children from home. Even when abuse and/or neglect are present and removal is necessary, it is nearly always painful. **Mr. Ryan** stated that since expanding the use of trauma-informed approaches, they have noticed a significant difference between families that receive the model and those that do not.
- **Mr. Ryan** stated that implementing the model with families has been so successful that it was decided every case should include this intervention. Because cases in Maricopa County are so many, judges working in other court specialties are being trained to take on juvenile court cases as well.
- **Mr. Ryan** said he is convinced this is the appropriate method for working with children and families and predicted this practice will soon be simply how the court does business.
- **Ms. Shawn Cox** asked what specific treatment models are used in the program. **Mr. Ryan** responded that Child and Family Psychotherapy and Play Therapy are frequently used.
- **Mr. Dennis Pickering** asked that since the Cradle to Crayons methodology is being used, are only those families with toddlers served by the program. **Mr. Ryan** stated that bonding, attachment and brain development are impacted and all ages are subject to being traumatized.
- **Mr. Greg McKay** thanked **Mr. Ryan** for his presentation and commented that the substantial decrease in foster care helps to validate the use of this program. **Mr. McKay** stated that there has been a 26 percent reduction of children in foster care, which the Department of Child Safety continues to monitor to ensure the reductions are conducted safely.
- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, asked whether bench assignments could be staggered or contracts extended. **Mr. Ryan** advised that when Judge Welty is appointed as presiding judge, he may recommend a three to five year placement for judges. **Ms. Nannetti** recalled she has observed judges who were not eager to be assigned in juvenile court but later realize they love it as it is very meaningful work.

### JJDPA Compliance Report

- **Mr. Steve Selover**, GOYFF Program Administrator, provided an update on the state's compliance of the core requirements during federal fiscal year 2018. A breakdown of compliance violations that occurred over the timespan was provided. **Mr. Selover** stated that the rates for Arizona are within the allowable threshold established by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and therefore it is likely the state will be judged to be in compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) core requirements.
- **Mr. Selover** noted the largest source of violations comes from law enforcement agencies detaining youth in excess of six hours for processing. It was added that these violations usually involved more serious crimes such as burglary, robbery, assault and vehicle theft, and often times these investigations run long due to the paperwork, interviewing suspects, witnesses and victims, and obtaining search warrants while the juvenile is in custody.
- **Mr. Selover** presented previously used strategies for addressing compliance barriers in the previous year and provided the commission recommended strategies to adopt in the current year.

- **Mr. Selover** asked the commission for input on the suggestions provided and any additional recommendations that could be included in the annual report.
- **Mr. Kelroy** asked whether a procedure was used to allow law enforcement to book the juvenile in detention prior to completing the arrest report and follow up with additional information later. **Mr. Selover** responded that the normal procedure requires the arresting officer to provide all reports and the notarized affidavit to the juvenile center intake before the youth can be screened and detained.
- **Mr. Grossman** stated it would be useful to know if many violations are committed during late hours and whether limited staff may contribute to extended custody times. **Mr. Selover** stated that this information could be calculated and may help with strategizing efforts to bring the violations down.
- **Mr. Grossman** asked to clarify what how training could be expanded and whether that would require additional funding. **Mr. Selover** replied that it depends on the training that is developed. Some platforms such as webinars could be conducted at no cost, whereas a training video requiring a studio and paid speaker would likely require a financial cost.
- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, recalled that in her experience, status offenders are typically placed last on the priority list and that reordering the docket may be needed. **Mr. Selover** agreed and stated that some counties that red flag status offenders have been able to reduce their violations by prioritizing their court processing.
- **Mr. Kelroy** suggested the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) add it to the Committee on Judicial Education and Training (COJET) program as part of the required curriculum.
- **Mr. Kelroy** asked for clarification on commissioner participation. **Mr. Selover** replied that there are times when a member of the commission can provide an additional level of prestige and credibility to the importance of JJDP compliance.
- Several commission members recalled traveling to different agencies to offer their support; however, the reduction in federal funding has made it more difficult to travel.
- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the recommendations provided by **Mr. Selover**.
  - **Mr. Grossman** moved to approve the strategies provided by **Mr. Selover**, with the addition of the AOC adding a compliance component to COJET.
  - **Dr. Leslie Quinn** seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

### AJJC Three-Year Plan Update

- **Mr. Selover** referenced the Arizona Three-Year Plan that was developed by GOYFF and the commission after the planning meeting conducted one year prior. **Mr. Selover** stated that an update to the plan is due to OJJDP every year as a portion of the application for the Title II Formula Grant.
- **Mr. Selover** summarized the meeting by reviewing the priorities that were identified by members and included the work that had been accomplished over the past year to address those priorities.
- **Mr. Selover** addressed two ongoing projects, including the crosswalk tool, which will be used to increase collaboration between the commission and other similar work groups, and the updated State Information Sharing Guide.
- **Ms. Wodraska** asked for a status update on the Information Sharing Guide. **Mr. Selover** stated that the guide is in the process of review to address minor errors and design. **Ms. Wodraska** said she is looking forward to its release as many practitioners find it to be a useful tool.
- After providing the overview of the current Three-Year Plan and progress to date, **Mr. Selover** stated the commission has an opportunity to make changes for the plan update, or the commission can vote to make no changes for the new year.
- **Mr. Pickering** asked **Mr. Selover** to identify areas that have shown the least improvement. **Mr. Selover** responded that the commission and staff should work harder to engage youth, both by adding additional youth members and by gathering input from youth currently in the system.
- **Mr. Selover** added that any issues outlined in the current plan, such as youth engagement and crossover youth, could be explored in an ad-hoc committee to determine what role the commission could take in addressing these matters.

- **Mr. McKay** stated, rather than assigning issues to committees, it might be more effective for the commission to sign a letter of support for legislation DCS has worked on to limit individuals who can file a petition to terminate the parent-child relationship due to abuse and/or neglect. **Mr. McKay** advised that the current statute allows virtually anyone to file a petition when the intent of the law was to allow family members and other agents close to the child to petition for termination rather than private attorneys.
- **Ms. Maria Dodge** stated she is concerned private attorneys would include guardians ad-litem and opposes legislation that would remove the ability for them to file.
- **Mr. McKay** stated the bill would address the petitioning of repeat offenders and chronic probation violators who are placed in the child welfare system due to repeated criminogenic behaviors.
- **Ms. Fuentes** agreed with **Mr. McKay** that she is not in favor of scheduling additional unnecessary meetings; however, committees appointed by the governor are not permitted to lobby for or against legislation. As an alternative, **Ms. Fuentes** suggested that details of the bill could be presented to the commission in an educational format to provide information.
- **Ms. Cox** recommended the commission should not get involved in legislation. **Ms. Fuentes** concurred, and added dissemination of information relating to best practices could be provided to the commission if appropriate.
- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, asked members for additional thoughts on the Three-Year Plan.
- **Mr. Grossman** suggested surveying systems involved youth would give the commission youth-voice, and the information extracted from the surveys could guide projects for youth serving on committees.
- Hearing no requests for substantive changes, **Ms. Nannetti** asked for a motion to make no updates to the state's Three-Year Plan.
  - **Ms. Debra Olson** moved to make no updates to the Three-Year Plan for 2019.
  - **Mr. Pickering** seconded the motion.
- Motion carried with no dissenting votes.

## AJJC Committee Reports

### Children's Justice Committee

- **Ms. Christina Schopen** shared that the committee is currently looking at various models for trauma-informed care used to address child abuse and neglect to identify common benchmarks used for defining trauma-informed approaches.
- **Ms. Schopen** stated the committee is continuing to look at ways to support mandatory reporting training and multidisciplinary teams throughout the state to ensure effective investigations of child abuse and neglect.
- **Ms. Schopen** also advised the committee has brought on additional members, including a representative from the Department of Child Safety, a pediatric and adolescent social worker from Mayo Clinic, and the clinical director at Childhelp.

### Grants Committee

- **Ms. Wodraska** stated the committee was provided documents that describe the progress and performance of each Title II subgrantee.
- **Ms. Wodraska** added that the committee is working on a survey for subgrantee partners where services are often provided. The committee decided it would be useful to receive feedback directly from the collaborating entities, such as schools or courts where programming is conducted, to obtain an additional piece of data that could help inform the commission of funded programs' performance. **Ms. Wodraska** stated the committee will also invite programs to upcoming meetings so the commission has the opportunity to hear directly from the subgrantee.

## Staff Updates

### JJDP A Reauthorization

- **Mr. Selover** advised the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act was reauthorized in December for the first time since 2002. Changes that are associated with the new law will be presented to the commission once OJJDP has communicated the information to the states.

#### **Children's Justice Act Grant**

- **Ms. Rebecca Chesley**, GOYFF program administrator, advised the contracts for Children's Justice Grant subgrantees were finalized this week the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding.
- **Ms. Chesley** shared that feedback from subgrantees demonstrates the October training for children's justice coordinators was helpful and provided them with additional resources and contacts for supporting each other, as coordinators often encounter many of the same challenges.

#### **AJJC Crosswalk**

- **Ms. Livia Finman**, GOYFF intern, provided a brief update on the AJJC Crosswalk, a tool that will allow the commission to identify workgroups that are working on issues related to juvenile justice and collaboration. The document is currently being edited to ensure it contains the appropriate information in a format that is understandable and easy to use.
- **Mr. Selover** stated that the document should be useful for increasing collaboration with other agencies and systems.

#### **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, asked members to reference the list of upcoming meeting dates provided in their meeting packets to ensure they are added to their calendars.

#### **Call to the Public**

- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, made a call to the public. No comments from public members were made.

#### **Adjournment**

- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, called for a motion to adjourn.
  - **Ms. Wodraska** moved to adjourn the meeting
  - **Dr. Thomas** seconded the motion.
- Motion carried with no dissenting votes. Meeting adjourned at 11:03 AM.

Dated February 8, 2019  
Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission  
Submitted by Steve Selover  
Program Administrator, GOYFF