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CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE PLANNING  
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Summary  
Disproportionate Minority Confinement Committee meeting  
Iowa Communications Network  
10 a.m. to 12 noon  
June 23, 2004

The Disproportionate Minority Confinement Committee met on the ICN June 23, 2004 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Members present: Michael Leiber, presiding; Kimberly Baxter, Deborah Berry, Devon Binion, John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas, Janice Edmunds-Wells, Bob Greenlee, Charles Grigsby, Kathy Nesteby, Marvin Spencer, John Wauters, Ruth White. Guests present: Miriam Landsman, Julie Spears. Members absent: Natalie Anderson, Connie Bear King, Barry Bennett, Sam Black, Ray Blasé, Marchelle Denker, Allison Fleming, Jack Hatch, Denise Hotopp, Stephan Pearson, Mark Prosser, Sara Petersen, Boursy Quang, Brad Richardson, Carl Smith, John Spinks, Felicia Toppert, Miguel Trevino, Kittie Weston-Knauer. Staff present: Scott Musel, Dave Kuker, Janet Clayton.

The summary of the last meeting was approved by motion of Wauters, second by Greenlee. The minutes will be forwarded to the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council.

### **Recruitment**

The chair asked Dave Kuker to review his efforts to recruit new members to the committee from diverse backgrounds. Our newest members are from the Native American and Asian American populations in Iowa. Additionally there are new members from corrections and law enforcement. Leiber asked for names of people from other populations who might serve on this committee. Several names were suggested for follow up by Kuker.

### **DMC Conference**

The discussion centered on subject matter and persons to present. Since many members of the committee were unable to attend this meeting, Julie Spears from the Resource Center will share the list just established with the entire DMC Committee for feedback. Since DHS will provide a session on their Children of Color Initiative, a 1 ½ day and maybe a two-day conference can be held.

Leiber asked about plans for publicity leading up to the Conference. The conference will be publicized earlier. Status of African American Commission offered to provide a link on its webpage. Berry suggested that the public access channels not be overlooked.

Wauters noted that the Courts budgets have been reduced considerably so JCO attendance may be less than last year. Since no scholarships will be available this year, he suggested Kuker contact the State Court Administrators office and also the decats so that one JCO from each decat area might attend.

## Woodbury County DMC Conference

Julie Spears reported that this successful conference registered 120+ people. The Governor addressed the audience. An engaged Native American population was present. Interest in continued involvement was high.

## Update on meeting with Chiefs

Kuker reported on the risk assessment tool two-day meeting held in Des Moines with Juvenile Court Services personnel. Robert Barnoski from Washington State addressed a group of system officials on their assessment tool being developed. Assessment tools of other states are being reviewed too. A small group of JCS, CJJP, & DMC Resource Center staff is working with Dr. Barnoski to draft a detention screening tool. Separately the chiefs are moving forward with an assessment tool to be used at the decision stage of juvenile court intake. This development of statewide assessment tools is considered a major step forward for the Chiefs.

Black Hawk County task force continues to meet. Court personnel, DHS, provider agencies, and the local police department representatives on this task force continue to look for alternatives to detention. Training sessions will be held. Detention "criteria cards" will be given to law enforcement in mid-summer or early fall. The local task force is effectively meeting with kids in detention. For some reason there is a significantly lower number of kids in detention this spring and early summer, all kids in general as well as minority youth. Referrals to juvenile court have not slowed down but the detention numbers continue to be lower. In other issues.

- JCS has provided \$25,000 over the Black Hawk County decat for use only on DMC efforts.
- State Representative Wayne Ford has received a grant to impact on children in the judicial system. Representative Jim Nussle acquired the funding. July 7 Ford will come to Waterloo to identify areas where this money can be utilized. The momentum is big right now and an effort may be made to hire a DMC coordinator who will be in partnership with others and take over the task force.

## Other

The JJAC gave approval for the renewal of the Polk County Diversion project for one more year. The project entered 3<sup>rd</sup> year funding for the period of 7/1/04 thru 6/30/05.

### *State Data Analysis*

Mike Leiber is updated an assessment he performed in the early 90's. He is utilizing the ICIS system to track case processing for delinquent youth – he is utilizing CJJP's data warehouse to access the ICIS data and track youth in Black Hawk, Linn and Johnson Counties. He is hoping to have results from his updated study in the fall of 04.

### *Next meeting*

Meeting date of September 9 was proposed.

The Byrne Institute is in Des Moines all week to review Polk County's DMC work. A major aspect of the work with Byrne relates to expanded involvement of "community" in their overall effort.

Respectfully,

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Janet Clayton, Recording Secretary

