

JJSP EIT Education Sub-Committee
March 17, 2011

Attendees: Ann-Marie DeGraffenreidt, Donna Cambria, Cathy Foley Geib, Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Dorothy Contrastano, Michelle Lyster, Martha Stone, Lara Herscovitch, Amy D'Amaddio

Educational Training Updates

The **Cross System Training Curriculum** developed by CSSD, DCF and the CSDE was reviewed. Suggestions were made to highlight the conflicting roles and mandates and to use vignettes to allow for the groups to engage with each other. Additional refining is needed and will be forwarded to the members once complete.

The target audience for the training was initially identified as parole, probation, school personnel and parents. Suggestions were made to expand the target audience to include other agencies and/or individuals that work with the JJ population and interface with the different systems at different points. Suggestions included residential treatment facilities, CSSD Residential Services educators and the CT Association of Non-Profits.

CSSD educational training has been rolled out statewide for Juvenile Probation Officers to understand the school's mandates, school perspective and alternative ways to engage with schools and advocating for services. Suggestion was made to reinforce the US DOE's position that LEA can not use RTI/ SRBI as a reason to delay or deny evaluations for eligibility of special education due to learning disabilities.

It was reported that the **CSDE** is planning to distribute a circular memo to reinforce the US DOE's position that the LEA can not use RTI/ SRBI process as a reason to delay or deny referral to special education.

DCF Unified District #2 Ed Consultants have just completed a statewide initiative to train all DCF SW on Child Find.

Coordination of Efforts: School Based Arrests

This group will take on the coordination of the school based arrest initiatives in an effort to minimize duplications of services and capitalize on what is being learned about how to best curb the use of the police and courts to manage students in school.

Listed are the ongoing School Based Arrest Initiatives that are currently known:

1. CTJJA- Technical Assistance is being provided to three communities in the state that have demonstrated a willingness to collaborate within their communities to bring together the police chief, school superintendent, SCJM presiding judge, building principals, YSBs (LIST leader), JPO supervisor, DCF AO, youth and parent to address the school based arrest issues. The Annie E. Casey Foundation is funding CTJJA's efforts to bring two judges from GA and AL who have spearheaded this initiative in their communities. There will be a full day "community facilitation" to discuss and develop protocol to deal differently with the school based arrest issue.

CSSD is conducting a manual file review to collect the specific data relating to school based arrests in the three identified communities.

The three identified communities include:

- i. Willimantic
- ii. Stamford
- iii. Middletown

2. JJAC - School Police Task Force- six communities were awarded \$20,000 each for proposing a plan to develop a memo of understanding between the police department and the schools to establish roles and responsibilities of School Resource Officers (SRO) in the school, and to provide a prevention or intervention program to at-risk students. A second RFP will be going out in the spring to expand this initiative.
3. CSSD Probation- Modified policy to require JPO supervisors to schedule regular meeting with the principals from the large feeder school districts
4. Data Collection- CSSD has hired a person to assist with the data collection. The project will encompass the following
 - a. Manual counting of all delinquency cases from the three pilot sites to determine which cases occurred while the juvenile was in school
 - b. A random sample will be taken to establish a statewide baseline.
 - c. JPO Supervisors will begin coding referrals at intake to reflect whether the incident occurred in school.
5. School Climate- The SDE has an identified person to head the training efforts at the district level. The group agrees that the issues with exclusion, school based arrests and school climate are correlated.

6. CCA- Public Welfare Grant- one year grant to target DMC- look at data from a state and local perspective.
7. CSSD and DCF – A MacArthur mental health training model developed in CT has been piloted by CCEP on 4 school districts (5 schools). Efforts are being made to reach out to additional schools to train on considering the use of EMPS in certain circumstances rather than calling the police when an incident occurs at school.
8. CTJJA- Two hour forum/ community dialogues- Information exchange on juvenile justice and education issues.
9. Hartford Public Schools has been awarded a \$13 million drop out grant
10. Education Practice Improvement Plan- looking at what kinds of policies should be in place?

Other:

DCF regional Office Restructuring-

1. How is DCF going to prioritize and integrate education into the DCF SW day to day responsibilities?
 - a. Cathy Holahan, CLS atty, is heading up the DCF transition team
 - b. Hartford Pilot – Mike Azarti
 - c. Ed consultants may be assigned to the regions but continue to report to Donna Cambria