Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Meeting Subcommittee on Programs and Practice

Overview

The Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Programs and Practice Subcommittee has met three times—June 28, July 26, and August 23--since the last full Coordinating Council meeting on April 19, 2023. The subcommittee recently gained several new participants and now includes a total of twenty-six members, representing eleven federal offices, one independent organization, and five practitioners from the field.

Discussions over the course of the subcommittee's three most recent meetings have focused on identifying areas of possible collaboration around programs and practices that support youth and families. Given the current crisis in youth mental health and in light of recommendations from the youth panel featured at the Coordinating Council's October 2022 meeting, the subcommittee agreed to focus on ways that members might work together to more effectively address youth mental health issues and the federal programs and practices that impact these issues. As a supplement to information gathered in October, the subcommittee referred to the <u>U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on Protecting Youth Mental Health</u>, which includes such recommendations as:

- Incentivizing coordination across grant programs.
- Improving coordination across all levels of government to address mental health needs.
- Emphasizing the importance of partnerships.
- Braiding and blending funds.
- Emphasizing the importance of training.
- Highlighting the importance of childhood trauma and ACES.
- Understanding sustainability when working with training and technical assistance providers and grant programs.

Moving forward, members noted that it will be important to examine how these recommendations overlay with recommendations received from the Council's October youth panel, which the group had previously agreed would serve as its guidepost.

The subcommittee also agreed that to further any work on youth mental health (or other issue areas), it will be critical to ensure continued input and participation from external entities including researchers, practitioners, youth, families, and other stakeholders. At the subcommittee's next meeting the group will engage in continued discussion on potential options to achieve this goal.

Several subcommittee members indicated a willingness to serve on working groups that could:

1. develop recommendations for the larger group on a process to ensure ongoing input from youth, researchers, practitioners and other key stakeholders; and/or

2. study key issue areas in greater detail with the goal of developing more specific recommendations for Council action.

This possibility will be explored more fully as the group moves forward.

In addition, pursuant to decisions made at the full Council's last meeting in April 2023, the Programs and Practice Subcommittee anticipates that in the near future, it will begin more substantive planning discussions around co-sponsorship of the OJJDP National Conference in November 2024.

Programs and Practice Subcommittee Members:

Kellie Blue

Co-Chair

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Sonali Nijhawan

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Michael Mendoza

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Sarah Oberlander

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Mark Patterson

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Maria-Lana Queen

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Dawn Rains

U.S. Department of Education

Judge Renee Rodriguez-Betancourt

Practitioner Member

Liz Simons

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Deborah Spitz

U.S. Department of Education

Adam Tierney

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Lisa Trivits

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Shaina Vanek

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Rebecca Zornick

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration