Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Thursday, June 27, 2024
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET
U.S. Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC

Meeting Attendees

Amy L. Solomon, Assistant Attorney General of the United States, U.S. Department of Justice
Benjamin C. Mizer, Acting Associate Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice
Elizabeth Ryan, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Julie Herr, Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Justice
Adam Tierney, Detention & Deportation Officer – National Juvenile Coordinator, U.S. Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Greg Henschel, Senior Research Analyst, U.S. Department of Education
Jeff Hunt, Director of YouthBuild, U.S. Department of Labor
Jennifer Burnszynski, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Kristen Kracke, Associate Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Lourdes Rosado, President and General Counsel, LatinoJustice PRLDEF
Marcy Mistrett, Senior Policy Specialist, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Maria-Lana Queen, HUD Liaison, Federal Interagency Youth Initiatives, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Mark Patterson, Administrator, Hawai`i Youth Correctional Facility, Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center
Mary "Tib" Campise, Associate Director, Child and Youth Advocacy, U.S. Department of Defense
Meghan Bishop, Senior Counselor, U.S. Department of the Interior
Melinda Baldwin, Ph.D., Senior Public Health Advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Michael Mendoza, Consultant, Juvenile and Criminal Justice, Reentry and Second Chances
Nataki MacMurray, Ph.D., Office of National Drug Control Policy
Sonali Nijhawan, Director, AmeriCorps State and National

Panelists

Jeff Hunt, Director of YouthBuild Program, U.S. Department of Labor
Jennifer Burnszynski, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Maria-Lana Queen, Project SOAR Program Manager, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Melinda Baldwin, Ph.D., Senior Public Health Advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Renee Bradley, Ph.D., Department of Education

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Administrator Ryan welcomed participants to the Coordinating Council meeting and introduced Amy Solomon, Assistant Attorney General.

Amy L. Solomon, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

Assistant Attorney General Solomon said that we will hear a panel discussion on trauma-informed and healing-centered approaches to youth justice. She thanked the Council for its work over the past two years, and she spoke of the personal and professional joy seeing the Council reconvene and lead the way for youth justice and youth justice reforms in the country.

She notes that this will be her last meeting before she leaves to pursue other interests. She said that we are forging ahead as a Council and getting closer to finishing the report for Congress. The Council continues to explore evidence-informed approaches for supporting youth. Today's meeting on trauma-informed and healing-centered approaches is important, not only for youth but across the justice system. She said that OJP is considering this more broadly, focusing trauma-informed and healing-centered approaches to the larger population.

AAG Solomon spoke about three examples for how OJP is approaching trauma-informed care in other parts of the office.

First, the Office for Victims of Crime launched a demonstration program that will help seed trauma recovery centers (TRCs) in more jurisdictions across the country. TRCs are one-stop individualized services for victims. They offer counseling, therapy, peer support, and basic necessities like food and medication.

The second example is community violence intervention (CVI). Many of us focus on community-led interventions to disrupt violence and address trauma in communities around the country. So far, we have invested over $200 million in 76 sites in almost 30 States. This year, AAG Solomon noted that DOJ will make up to $2.5 million in awards to help build CVI trauma-informed services and strategies for the CVI workforce.

The third example is the Bureau of Justice Assistance, which is working through hundreds of collaborations that pair behavioral health specialists and justice system officials via the justice and mental health collaboration project. This is a way to get access for recovery and treatment service professionals in the system, from crisis response at the front end through the correction system.

Stakeholders—such as community organizations, health and behavioral health specialists, educators, community leaders, and youth and families with lived experiences—are key to sustainable solutions and to the long-term success of those who come into contact with the system.

Liz Ryan, Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and Vice Chair, Coordinating Council

Administrator Ryan thanked AAG Solomon for her leadership and dedication to the Coordinating Council and to improving youth justice. She thanked the full Council and the subcommittees for their continued commitment and ongoing contributions to the development of the report to Congress and the President. She noted that the Council has reached one of the most challenging stages in the process: taking the five important recommendations and finding ways to make them real by identifying specific actions to move this work forward.

Administrator Ryan reminded participants that when the Council gathered in April 2024, members learned about OJJDP's Continuum of Care framework. The Council adopted this framework to guide its work moving forward. For today's meeting, participants will hear about trauma-informed care and healing-focused practices. These related subjects stand out as important themes to the five recommendations. We will hear how Council member agencies are implementing successful, trauma-informed approaches, and this information will highlight potential opportunities for collaboration. Addressing childhood trauma is essential to helping young people heal. We must meet young people where they are, and that includes addressing the trauma that they have experienced throughout their lives.

Addressing trauma early can make an enormous difference. We can help young people avoid justice system involvement completely, or avoid them moving deeper into the system, all by ensuring that we address their needs as previous victims or witnesses of violence, abuse, or neglect.

Research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that approximately two-thirds of U.S. adults reported at least one adverse childhood experience (ACE) on nationwide surveys conducted between 2011 and 2020. ACEs include violence, abuse or neglect, witnessing violence in the home or community, and circumstances that undermine children's sense of safety and stability, including substance use problems, parental separation, and the incarceration of close family members.

ACEs can lead to toxic levels of stress that impair a child's brain development. These changes can result in lifelong effects on children's attention, decision-making, and learning, and as a result, when they are adults, they may struggle with finances, employment, and depression.

Federal agencies must find better ways to apply what we know about trauma and healing to youth impacted by the juvenile justice system. We must make mental health and behavioral health treatment more readily available by ensuring access to necessary services at every stage in the Continuum of Care.

Administrator Ryan introduced Ben Mizer, the Acting Associate Attorney General. She noted that he is a strong supporter of OJJDP's work, and he brings a deep commitment to the youth in our country and to the work our partners are doing to support our nation's youth and our youth-serving professionals.

Benjamin C. Mizer, Acting Associate Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice

Acting Associate Attorney General Mizer said that the work of the Council has never been more important. He said that we are reminded of the urgency of this work in every report about the challenges that our young people face. In a recent Surgeon General's advisory, he declared firearm violence a public health crisis. Gun deaths have risen steadily over the last decade, and it underscores the fact that firearm violence is the leading cause of death among children and teens. Without intervention, traumatic childhood experiences are a predictor of future victimization and justice involvement. They can also lead to a host of physical and psychological problems, including environmental stress so toxic that it can alter a child's DNA.

He noted that our job is to help our colleagues in the field identify the most effective evidence-informed solutions and then bring those solutions to our communities. He said that DOJ's leadership is grateful for the Council's work on behalf of the Nation's youth.

Agency and Practitioner Introductions
Meeting participants introduced themselves and their organizations.

Trauma-Informed and Healing-Centered Support for Youth and Families: Exploring Federal Approaches

Administrator Ryan introduced the panelists who will be speaking about trauma-informed and healing-centered approaches in various Federal agencies.

Renee Bradley, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education at the Department of Education

Renee noted that one of the Department of Education's top priorities is to improve learning conditions, and one of the focus areas is on prevention. The safety and security needs of students is vitally important, but that does not diminish our need to provide the supports and services that students need.

Youth involved in juvenile justice have experienced early and repeated trauma. This multiple exposure to violence, isolation, exclusion, and basic insecurities like food, housing, and positive relationships, substantially impact the cognitive brain development of youth.

Renee noted that we want to make sure we "do no harm" by not retraumatizing children who have already been through so much trauma.

At the Department of Education, the primary client is the States, but the Department also works with school districts, individual schools, and those in corrections facilities. Along with safety and support, Renee said that Education representatives think about how to use interventions that address issues common across the youth population. Many of the students focus on survival. When a student is focused solely on survival, he or she is in fight-or-flight mode. We want to redirect, reteach, and retrain these students. We want to understand why these behaviors happened.

The curiosity of wanting to know why a certain behavior is happening gives us the ability to go a little deeper. Section 4108 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act focuses on safe and supportive environments. It specifically addresses reducing exclusion from school and intervening in the school-to-prison pipeline. One of the most important things for youth who have been exposed to trauma is understanding how we can encourage and build relationships around them so that they have access to trusted adults.

Renee mentioned the Bipartisan Safe Communities Act, which provided access to grants that increased the number of mental health service providers. She also mentioned a series of technical assistance centers: the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments, the National Center on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support from the National Center on Emergency Management Planning, along with our full-service schools, 21st Century schools, and Project Prevent. She also noted that Education has been conducting webinars that started with the response to COVID-19, which have developed into a series on creating and supporting positive environments, some of which will be focused on juvenile justice.

Jennifer Burnszynski, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Trauma is widespread, harmful, and costly as a public health problem, and its affects are especially detrimental for children and youth. Jennifer noted that at HHS, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides leadership and resources on trauma-informed approaches. HHS works to integrate trauma-informed approaches and mental health promotion in all its Federal initiatives and programs.

The best way to address trauma, Jennifer said, is to stop it from occurring in the first place. That can be achieved through primary prevention. Jennifer noted that many of our child and family-serving programs and systems can also cause trauma. For example, involvement in the child welfare system can be traumatizing because of the frequent investigations and the perceived threat to the family.

Jennifer mentioned that safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments are essential to children's health and well-being. ACEs are potentially preventable traumatic events that occur in childhood. She spoke of the resources that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has, which focus on measuring, understanding, and preventing ACEs. The CDC has also developed resources like the Adverse Childhood Experiences Prevention Resources for Action, which helps States and communities take advantage of the best available evidence to prevent ACEs from happening in the first place, and then also discuss the strategies to mitigate harm from ACEs once they have happened. These resources include specific ways to achieve prevention strategies through programs, practices, and adoption of new policies. The CDC recently established a National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Adverse Childhood Experiences Prevention Strategy.

Jennifer said that in 2023, CDC funded a program called Essentials for Childhood, which focuses on preventing ACEs and promoting positive experiences. The data gathered from these programs will inform implementation of evidence-based prevention strategies and approaches to ensure safe and stable environments for children.

Within the Administration for Children and Families is the Children's Bureau. The Bureau places a priority on reorienting the child welfare system to strengthen the resiliency of families, reduce trauma exposure, and give children what they need to thrive. For example, the community-based Child Abuse Prevention Program provides services like voluntary home visits, parent education, family resource centers, and other supports to build parental capacity and resources. Additionally, the Family First Prevention Services Act authorized a new program for time-limited prevention services for mental health and substance abuse.

Jennifer mentioned the importance of getting upstream—preventing trauma before it occurs—and focusing on family strengths. HHS has been focusing on providing trauma-informed services for children and families who have already experienced trauma. HHS is providing guidance, training, technical assistance, and other resources to the field. HHS developed a guide to trauma-informed human services through a collaborative partnership among programs within the agency. The guide is intended to provide an introduction to the topic of trauma, a discussion of why understanding and addressing trauma is important for human services programs, and a roadmap to find relevant resources. The guide helps professionals learn about trauma-informed care and engage in trauma-informed work to improve their current practice.

Jennifer noted trauma-informed initiatives fall into three categories:

- Strengthening training around trauma-informed care.
- Screening for trauma.
- Focusing on service improvement.

Jennifer acknowledged that the workforce also needs support providing services to children and families. The workforce experiences a lot of stress on the job, and there are HHS resources to help staff. HHS is conducting a study to examine how to build practitioner capacity to enhance emotional self-regulation and co-regulation skills, which will strengthen the support provided to youth.

Maria-Lana Queen, HUD Liaison, Federal Interagency Youth Initiatives, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Maria-Lana informed the audience that there are over 3,200 public housing authorities across the country, in every city and State where HUD serves the nation's low-income families. There are about 1.1 million households in public housing, and about 2.2 million low-income families that live in those units. Within those families, 45 percent are families with children. HUD coordinates with many Federal agencies.

Maria-Lana said that most of what she plans to address focuses on prevention. She noted that HUD wants to prevent trauma at a very young age. HUD supplies role models to help low-income students avoid trauma, complete their financial aid forms, apply to college or post-secondary education, and enroll in programs. HUD also works with Job Corps, which can provide nutritious food, opportunities to meet new people and make friends, and meet positive role models. This opportunity could lead to a certification that could lead to a career pathway.

HUD also works with Department of Labor for jobs initiatives and worked with the Federal Aviation Administration with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. HUD enjoys a long history with the Coordinating Council. They worked together to do some expungements, and many of the young people whose records were expunged are now working and are not stigmatized if they need public housing.

HUD started the Book Rich Environment Initiative in 2016. HUD works with the National Book Foundation, and it has distributed over 2.5 million free, brand new books to kids and families. This allows young people to leave trauma situations and go to an environment where they can read and have access to books. It opens up opportunities.

She emphasized the importance of collaborative work and encouraged Council participants to seek opportunities with HUD.

Jeff Hunt, Director of YouthBuild Program, U.S. Department of Labor

The Department of Labor debuted www.dol.gov/youthmentalhealth last month. The website includes tools, tips, and best practices for stakeholders. Through grants, Labor also funds the YouthBuild program. Many of Jeff's examples will focus on the YouthBuild program, but the examples represent broader development initiatives. Labor has about 200 YouthBuild grants around the country in 40 States, including a new one in Guam, and YouthBuild directly funds a Tribe in Idaho.

YouthBuild serves young people, ages 16 to 24, who, for the most part, have left high school without a diploma and faced barriers to employment. Jeff said that it is a myth that people with felonies cannot participate in Federal programs. That is not a Federal requirement or restriction. There could be State requirements or restrictions, but there are none at the Federal level.

When a young person enrolls in YouthBuild, they spend about half their time pursuing their diploma or GED. They will spend about 40 percent of their time pursuing occupational skills training. All Labor-funded YouthBuild programs train in construction while participants build or renovate housing for people in their own community. YouthBuild prepares the participants to enter registered apprenticeships when they are done with YouthBuild. Another core component of YouthBuild is its focus on youth voice. YouthBuild encourages its programs to solicit input directly from youth for designing its programs. This feedback loop has proven valuable. Youth participants give their feedback to their program leadership, the program leaders tell YouthBuild representatives, and YouthBuild tries to be responsive with the technical assistance it provides.

Melinda Baldwin, Ph.D., Senior Public Health Advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Melinda said that trauma-informed approaches recognize and intentionally respond to the adverse effects of traumatic experiences while promoting resilience for those impacted individuals and families. Trauma is widespread and costly, and it negatively affects mental and physical health. She said that we need to think about how trauma impacts whole communities. Sometimes the systems with which an individual interacts can retraumatize an individual.

In 2014, SAMHSA published a paper that addressed the effects of trauma, traumatic experiences, and traumatic events.

The paper addressed the four Rs. How do we **realize** that trauma is a widespread experience? How do we **recognize** the symptoms? How do we **respond** to traumatic experiences? How do we ensure that our own systems are not **retraumatizing**?

Trust and transparency are also two vital distinguishers when it comes to trauma. In 2023, SAMHSA put a new strategic plan into place. It presents a person-centered mission and vision that highlights five priorities undergirded by four core principles.

The five priorities are:

- Prevent substance use and overdose.
- Enhance access to suicide prevention and mental health services.
- Promote resilience and emotional health for children, youth, and families.
- Integrate behavioral and physical healthcare.
- Strengthen the behavioral health workforce.

The four core principles are:

- Recovery.
- Commitment to data and evidence.
- Equity.
- Trauma-informed approaches.

SAMHSA ensures that every notice of funding announcement includes trauma-informed approaches. Melinda told Council members about an interagency task force formed in 2019 out of the Support Act. The task force had two charges:

- Develop a national strategy for trauma-informed care.
- Identify, evaluate, and make recommendations about best practices regarding children and families who have experienced trauma.

The task force identified four pillars that would help them with their progress on meeting the charges.

1. Best practices—Identify and make recommendations on evidence-based and evidence-informed practices regarding prevention of exposure to potentially traumatic events, identification of trauma-related behavioral health, and other health needs.
2. Research—How do we build a robust research agenda? What do we know and what do we not know? How do we go about building that?
3. Data—What data can we collect? How can we use and harness that data?
4. Federal coordination—How do we collaborate?

We recognize the increasing importance of the need to address trauma. This recognition is an important component of effective social service delivery. An evidence-based understanding of how to do that, however, is still being developed. Agencies often report on what works well, but

we also need to report on things that do not work well because we can learn from those just as we can learn from what does work.

Melinda said that most Federal agencies incorporate trauma-informed approaches into their activities, but they are often not trauma-specific programs. It is good that the approaches are being integrated in other things, especially because a lot of programs that incorporate trauma-informed approaches aim to advance racial equity and provide support for underserved communities. There is still a lot of work to be done.

Questions and Answers

Meghan noted that Tribal communities are struggling, especially Tribal youth. She spoke of the importance of Tribal set-asides for grants; most grants are competitive. After Executive Order 14112 was signed, she is hopeful that there will be more outreach to Tribes to alert them of available grants and provide them technical assistance to apply for these grants. Please reach out to her for additional information related to Tribal concerns.

Nataki noted the importance of working collaboratively and coming out of our agency silos. She said that we often talk about the same kids, the same families, and the same communities. She hopes that as we move forward, we think about how we can build core components into all of our programs, so that we can talk about the multiple benefits of common investments.

In response to Meghan's Tribal topic, Jeff said that for the last two or three funding opportunity announcements for YouthBuild, YouthBuild/Labor has included a waiver on the match requirement specifically for Tribes. Most organizations that apply for YouthBuild funding have to find a 25-percent match from some other sources. Tribes told us that that was a burden. We foresee the waiver remaining available in future funding opportunity announcements.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is going through reauthorization. There is a Tribal set-aside in the House version and we hope it remains in the Senate and in the consensus version.

Jennifer spoke about match requirements, saying that HHS just eliminated the required match for Tribes to ease the financial burden. The Human Services Policy at HHS just launched the Children's Center Agency Coordinating Council, which we hope will partner with this Council, which is one of the only groups focused on children and their well-being.

Council Business: Subcommittee Reports and Recommendations
Kristen Kracke, Associate Administrator, OJJDP
Chair, Policy Subcommittee

Kristen updated the Council on the subcommittees' progress. The Programs and Practice Subcommittee and the Policy Subcommittee met jointly three times on the shared task of continued development of the recommendations for the report to the President and Congress. Subcommittee members explored the five recommendations in further detail and began developing more specific ways to operationalize the recommendations, which will serve as a

foundation for the Annual Report to Congress and the President.

Subcommittee members reviewed Federal strategic levers that can be used to advance the recommendations. Those levers are **fiscal**, **financial**, **legislative**, **practice**, **capacity building**, **policy**, **research**, **data and metrics**, and **communications**. Subcommittee members developed proposed strategies, actions, and activities. Subsequent meetings allowed members to review, discuss, and consider those proposed actions and activities and organize them into the report in two identifying ways. One, actions for Congress and the President. Two, actions the Council can accomplish on its own through coordination and collaboration within our own authorities.

The Programs and Practice Subcommittee continued work to finalize the seven sessions proposed for the OJJDP National Conference. The sessions will focus on exploring the work of the Federal government as well as examining the challenges that communities face in advancing youth justice and meeting the needs of youth and families.

Council members approved the subcommittees' report.

Updated Recommendations – FY24 Report to Congress
Marcy Mistrett, Senior Policy Specialist, OJJDP

Marcy said that she had two goals for her presentation: One goal was to review and discuss possible recommendations for congressional and executive action in the Council's Annual Report. The second goal was to look at some possible actions that the Council could take in fiscal year 25 as part of its work plan.

As a quick refresher, Marcy said that Council and subcommittee members worked to narrow a list of 100 recommendations to 15. At the April 2024 Council meeting, the Council voted to adopt the Continuum of Care framework as a guiding framework for the report to Congress and the President. The Council also approved the subcommittees' top 15 recommendations. Subcommittees reduced the 15 recommendations to the top 5 priorities. Those priorities are our immediate focus, and they span the entire Continuum of Care.

At a recent subcommittee meeting, members agreed that there are cross-cutting values that span all five priorities. Subcommittee members agreed that the priorities are trauma-informed, healing-focused, and culturally responsive. The priorities engage meaningfully with people and families with lived experience. The priorities are community-based or community-led, and they do not create additional silos. Marcy noted the importance of being not just trauma responsive; we want to prevent trauma from the beginning.

For the recommendations that require funding, they will also require an appropriations response. Some of the recommendations still need further clarification. We want to be certain that we are clear when it comes to whether the recommendation requires a legislative or executive response. We have several legislative requests. For example, we have several training and technical assistance and public education requests, and we have requests for investments in programs that are supported by evidence and research.

Subcommittees have also discussed activities that the Council could explore that would work within existing authorities and resources.

- One activity is to support a five-part webinar series that addresses each of the top five recommendations and highlights the work of Council agencies in each of our five priority areas. Each webinar could be hosted by a different Council agency and include representatives from various agencies.
- Another activity is to demonstrate how the Continuum of Care looks across Federal agencies by identifying current investments in each part of the Continuum of Care Framework.
- A third activity is to consider developing a series of one-pagers that highlight the progress Federal agencies have made under each program area.
- A fourth activity is to create or update MythBusters, similar to those released by the Federal Interagency Reentry Council. Some of that work may exist and just needs to be updated.
- A fifth activity is to focus on each agency's request for FY 2026 funds that support a priority on the Coordinating Council Workplan.

Michael Mendoza mentioned the importance of data. He said that he is working with Senator Shannon Grove on SB 1043, a bill in partnership with Paris Hilton and 11:11 Media. The bill examines short-term residential therapeutic programs. Michael said they wanted to collect two data points for our research. The data focused on when a child is restrained or secluded. Stakeholders learned that there was no person dedicated to collecting these data. Michael said that there was no formality in the process for determining when a child was restrained or secluded in a program.

If we want to be serious about delinquency prevention, Michael noted, short-term residential therapeutic programs, and the data collected that are associated with the programs, is an area where we can improve. We can improve avoiding ACEs if we streamline processes, use taxpayer dollars appropriately, and ensure kids who are in a program for therapy are not being further traumatized. Michael wondered if there is a way to strengthen data processes and ensure that we not only hold our agencies accountable, but we prevent ACEs when a child might need to be restrained or isolated. Further, he asked how can we improve data processes in our government and State agencies to ensure that kids who need help are being treated appropriately.

Review and Discussion of Updated Recommendations
Liz Ryan, Vice Chair, Coordinating Council Membership

Administrator Ryan suggested that subcommittee members, in their regular subcommittee meetings, consider the topics Michael mentioned as they work to refine the recommendations.

Maria-Lana noted that in the recommendations for Congress and the President, we might want to include language that focuses on agencies that receive smaller amounts of appropriations. HUD usually has the smallest amount of appropriations for serving children and young people compared to other agencies. She noted that in the recommendations of other working groups on which she has worked, those recommendations sometimes reference agencies that receive less funding.

Tib asked who else needs to be involved when it comes to making decisions about funding and housing. She wondered how to fund "the ecology of support" instead of funding agencies. She said that it is more about funding the web of support, and each agency represents something that can be added to that support. Tib also said that we should look at the recommendations and ensure that the concerns of the young people who were at the Council's meeting in October 2022 are reflected in the recommendations.

Lourdes noted that recommendation 9 relates to confidentiality, but some levels of confidentiality could inhibit coordination. She saw examples of information being shared unlawfully, which could harm the youth and the youth's family. She suggested some changes to the language: "publish, educate, and provide training on best practices for lawfully sharing information about youth involved in multiple systems when confidentiality protections may inhibit coordination."

For recommendation 13 on diversion, Lourdes asked if we could expand the recommendation beyond law enforcement diversion to all points in the system where diversion is possible. She said that there are many chances for diversion: a prosecutor's charging decision, the prosecutor and judge deciding whether or not a child will be given some type of adjournment, whether or not to dismiss charges, etc. She asked that Council members consider including in the recommendation other entities that have responsibility for the youth's outcome, most specifically prosecutor's offices.

Administrator Ryan suggested that subcommittee members, in their regular subcommittee meetings, consider the language changes that Lourdes recommended.

Jennifer mentioned that for recommendation 14, regarding HHS statutory authority, appropriate stakeholders will need to be involved.

Administrator Ryan asked for more input on year one activities for the Council.

Meghan noted that for recommendation 4, we could highlight the requests made in fiscal year 26 and then amend or update those funding requests for fiscal year 27.

Administrator Ryan said that we need more discussion on that topic to ensure that we are not working on something that has already been completed.

Maria-Lana asked who is the audience for the webinars, and if each agency represented on the Council would host a webinar. Marcy said that the webinars would be given to those who either request them or are working on subject matter related to the webinar topic. Maria-Lana also asked if there is a deliverable or product that would result from the webinar. She asked what we do with the information gathered from the webinar.

Administrator Ryan proposed creating a list that details the ways people could use the information from the webinar, such as posting on websites, sharing it with our networks, and connecting with other federally funded programs. Maria-Lana suggested a data collection or data sharing agreement (i.e., a reporting-out activity).

Nataki mentioned having input on how the Council shapes the webinars so that we address issues around audience. She said that it is important to develop ideas for making the information implementable.

Administrator Ryan suggested that specifics, such as deliverables or usable information, can be addressed in subcommittee meetings.

Tib noted the importance of using existing pathways and structures. Use what already exists but tailor it as needed. She also spoke about the importance of collaboration and that sharing knowledge and resources can be beneficial.

Sonali mentioned that one of the activities could involve demonstrating how the Continuum of Care looks across Federal agencies and demonstrating how Federal agencies can come together to bolster initiatives that may already exist.

Administrator Ryan said that we need to ensure that the voices of justice-involved youth are part of stakeholder engagements, meetings, and listening sessions.

Nataki noted that a number of agencies represented at today's meeting have existing youth advisory councils, or they have conducted youth listening sessions. Rather than reconvening or convening a new round of these sessions, Nataki mentioned doing a crosswalk of whether or not our recommendations respond to what we have heard so that we are certain we are employing the youth voice. That could be a year one activity.

Administrator Ryan said that we can do that between now and when the Annual Report is published.

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.