



STATE OF WASHINGTON

SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

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SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

Juvenile Registration and Community Notification Subcommittee

April 21, 2021 4:00pm-5:00pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Emily Hiskes, Snohomish County PDA; Katie Hurley, King County DPD; Paula Reed, CAC of WA; Rob Gelder, WSAC; Jedd Pelander, DCYF; Rick Torrance, DOC – OCVA; Jermaine Williams, Freedom Project; Karen Feller, treatment provider; Lorraine Lynch, KCSARC; Sonja Hardenbrook, Snohomish Co. Public Defender; Tim Kahn, treatment provider; Whitney Hellyer, Harborview ATC.

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Call to Order

Leah welcomed everyone to the meeting. Meeting participants were asked to mute their microphones when not speaking and asked to use the chat function and “Raise your hand” function through Zoom whenever they would like.

Leah reminded people that the meeting was being recorded and the recording could be provided upon request. She told people that if they need to leave early or arrive late that is okay and that they can come and go as they need.

Leah invited people to introduce themselves.

Objective 1 – Review subcommittee assignment

- **Leah** reminded subcommittee members what the subcommittee was tasked with answering:
- **Item 1:**
 - Conduct a review of current juvenile sex offender treatment programs in Washington including the availability, affordability, accessibility and efficacy of treatment resources available across the state and in institutional settings and an analysis of geographic disparity and recommendations for improvement to the current treatment infrastructure and availability of resources.
- **Item 5:**
 - Make recommendations.

- **Leah** provided an overview of the subcommittee process and expected timeline.
 - Subcommittee will meet at least once a month through September.
 - Final recommendations are due to the SOPB by their September 16 board meeting.
 - Subcommittee recommendations are decided by majority vote.
 - Once final recommendations are submitted to the full SOPB, the SOPB will vote on what to include in their report. Once the report is drafted the SOPB will review the report and then edits can be made. Once the report is finalized, it is submitted to OFM for a communications review.
 - **Leah** emphasized that at this time changes will be made to wording but the spirit of the item will not change. Should people have concerns though, they can always reach out.
 - **Leah** added that she would send out a subcommittee timeline.

Objective 2 – Project Proposal

- **Leah** proposed that the group begin by reviewing the current practices for juvenile sex offender treatment in Washington.
 - **Leah** recommended a survey of Washington Certified Sex Offender Treatment Providers who provide treatment to juveniles.
 - the purpose of the survey would be to answer questions on availability, affordability, accessibility, efficacy, and geographic disparities.
 - WATSA said they are able to review the survey and help gather responses.
 - We also have the most up to date CSOTP directory from the Dept. of Health to help with survey dissemination.
 - **Leah** added that geographic disparities can be determined using the survey data as well as census data from the OFM Population unit.
 - **Jedd Pelander** will provide an overview of institutional treatment for juveniles.
 - After the initial review, members can move into discussing recommendations.
- **Leah** asked the group if they had thoughts or feedback.
 - **Tim Kahn** said asking the SOTPs is a good start, but juvenile courts should be included in the questionnaire. This group may help with income and geographic disparity.
 - **Jedd** said **Tim** is right and there are different areas in counties that are doing different things and it will be important to capture these.
 - The group determined that a separate questionnaire should be used for juvenile court administrators.
 - **Lorraine Lynch** mentioned wanting to capture the SAY program.
- **Jermaine Williams** asked for an overview of juvenile sex offender treatment.
 - **Jedd** provided a brief overview of institutional treatment through DCYF.
 - This overview can be found 30 minutes into the meeting recording found at the end of this document.
 - **Jedd** also clarified that the institutional treatment providers are not certified SOTPs.
 - **Lorraine Lynch** said she knows the focus is on youth who have sexually offended, but at the sexual assault center they get a lot of referrals for children 11 and under who have been exhibiting sexual behaviors, and they are seeking

services for them. this is downstream, before people are identified by the criminal justice system. Oftentimes KCSARC and HATC will provide services to these young children but there is often a concern about where to send them if they cannot offer that survey. **Larraine** said in the survey it might be helpful to ask about who serves children that have exhibited problematic behaviors but have not been engaged by the criminal justice system.

- **Jedd** said these questions could be incorporated into the survey. **Jedd** talked about DCYF and when they may pay for SAY treatment.
- **Tim Kahn** suggested that we look at the SAY program and make recommendations on this. **Tim** added he thinks one of the reasons the program doesn't have much is because people don't want to label their kids as sexually aggressive youth.
 - **Larraine** said she had clinicians who wanted to work with SAY but they couldn't because they didn't want to pay for the license and looking at and reviewing the criteria may be beneficial.
 - **Jedd** said the new SOTP advisory committee through DOH may be able to help look at this.

Next Steps:

- **Tim Kahn** and **Karen Feller** will provide an overview of community-based treatment at the next subcommittee meeting.
- **Leah** will draft a first version of the survey and then send to the subcommittee to review.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE BEST PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE

_____/s/_____
Co-Chair Jedd Pelander

_____/05/19/2021_____
Date

_____/s/_____
Co-Chair Rick Torrance

_____/05/19/2021_____
Date

The full meeting recording can be found and viewed here:

https://ofm-wa.gov.zoom.us/rec/share/DiJ3O0iD8GHemJku2kdewoWFIqz2AwNu4u7D8K_ZNAvOypBMRUjXkSJ2xY89noN0.7Nqf_QCV6R9Igtj-?startTime=1619045913000