



# NH JUVENILE COURT DIVERSION NETWORK

## *SECOND CHANCES FOR FIRST TIME OFFENDERS*

NICOLE RODLER, CHAIR

WWW.NHCOURTDIVERSION.ORG

ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT • (603) 330-7149

JUVENILE COURT DIVERSION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE  
*PROFESSIONALS AND VOLUNTEERS DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVES IN JUVENILE JUSTICE*

### Network Meeting Minutes November 19, 2014

#### Welcome & Introductions-

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Nicole Rodler (Rochester) at 10:47am at Goffstown High School, Goffstown, NH. Present were Alecia Farquhar (Newport), Jon Donovan (Manchester), Karen Kersting (Goffstown – UpReach), Diane Casale (Derry), Al Baines (Goffstown – Crispins House), Jay Apicelli (Grafton County), Betsy Houde (Nashua), Sara Degennaro (Lower Grafton County), Dawn Shimberg (Tilton), Ashley John (Merrimack County – Intern), Jessica Klingerman (Merrimack County).
2. Absent and excused Peter Brigham (Hillsboro); GoTo mtg participants

#### I.) Minutes/Approval: Jessica

1. Motion by Nicole to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2014 meeting as written, seconded by Diane and approved unanimously.

#### II.) Treasurer's Report: Peter

1. Peter was absent.

#### III.) Old Business:

1. Accreditation Committee:
  - a. Diane made the changes to the 2015-2017 accreditation questionnaire that were discussed at the last meeting. The questionnaire can be accessed on the website. Diane will be sending a letter to agencies the first week of December as a reminder to start the accreditation process. Please contact Diane if you have any questions or need assistance.
2. Strategic Committee Update:
  - a. Betsy reports that SAG called Nicole to tell her they were considering our budget for a network coordinator but want to trim the funds from \$120,000 to \$90,000. Betsy passed out and discussed a budget narrative. This new budget will be submitted back to the committee for review. As soon as Nicole hears anything she will let us all know.
  - b. Betsy brought up concerns about what happens in the event we do get this funding and how we incorporate this position into the network. We may have to review bylaws and create a policy manual or employee handbook to lay out what all the pieces will look like. All agreed that clarifying expectations for the coordinator are critical for success. Please forward any recommendations/ HR resources to Betsy.



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#### IV.) New Business:

1. Nicole referenced an article she emailed to everyone, "Failed Policies, Forfeited Futures" regarding juvenile records. There was some discussion about how the state of NH handles juvenile records, how we are part of that and what we can do differently or are doing well. Some areas of concern were: if, when and how diversion records are destroyed; how we tell kids to answer the "have you ever been arrested" question, are we giving enough information to youth about their rights. All agreed that that we need more information/research on these topics and we need to have some consistency throughout programs. A subcommittee was created for this purpose and members include: Alecia, Jay and Nicole. The committee will work on researching the state status on record keeping, sealing and expunging processes and development of a booklet for our youth to inform them about their future responses and processes regarding their juvenile records. Betsy will also ask Rachel/CHI if they have time to tackle this topic.
2. Restorative Justice Conference:
  - a. Jessica passed out some handouts from the conference she thought would be helpful.
  - b. Sara mentioned that she feels the network should take a larger role in promoting restorative justice in the state. Nicole suggested putting more information on our website.
  - c. Al referenced an article by a WMUR reporter about restorative justice being used in a recent case but the article did not accurately explain what restorative justice was. All agreed that this would be an opportunity to create a message and educate people about what restorative justice really is. Jay will write an article to put on the website and to send to newspapers in regards to this matter. Nicole will reach out to WMUR reporter to discuss the inaccuracies of the article.

#### VI.) Next Meeting:

DATE: January 21, 2015

TIME: TBA

LOCATION: Community Health Institute, Bow NH

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:16pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Klingerman, Recording Secretary

New Hampshire Juvenile Court Diversion Network