

**Albany County Community Juvenile Services Board
Advisory Committee
Education Subcommittee Agenda**

Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2017
Time: 2:00-3:20 pm
Location: Big Brother Big Sisters

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of March 28, 2017 MHSA/Education Joint Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Resortative Community Mediation Discussion**
- 4. Community Center Discussion**



ACCJSB Education/MHSA Joint Meeting

Committee Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2017

1:30-3:00 pm

Albany County Commissioner's Chambers

Committee Members Present: Donna Coffey, Tony Mendoza, Deb Formento, Mark Holder, Katie Willie, Steve Hamaker, Steve Slyman, Donna Sheen, Patricia Thobro, Adria Schiel, Ty Peterson, Cameron Pestyer, Megan Wild, Adrienne Freng, Martha Doyle, Allan Linde, Narina Nunez, Tim Nyquist, Maria Consuelos, Peggy Trent

Discussion:

- Peggy Trent explained the systems that juveniles are going through in Albany County and roots and breakdown of single point of entry.
- The committee discussed restorative justice systems. Restorative justice has roots in the justice system both with juveniles and adults. Restorative justice is a continuum system that looks at repairing harm through a lens of accountability and high support. Takes into consideration the individual/community that was harmed. Funding for training available through the Victim Witness Program at County Attorney's Office. Further discussion for this proposal will take place in the workgroup meeting.
- The committee discussed Day Treatment Program/School Based Mental Health Services so that juveniles can receive mental health and substance abuse services within their school day. Funding to implement program/services also available through the Victim Witness Program. Further discussion for this proposal will take place in the workgroup meeting.
- As programs are developed they will be added to Positive Youth Justice Criteria by Donna Sheen. The revised version will be distributed for review.
- If you are interested in sponsoring or attending the Wyoming Joint Symposium on Children and Youth, you can find more information at www.wyojsycy.com or contact Maria Consuelos at mconsuelos@co.albany.wy.us
- Please contact Maria Consuelos if you know of any errors with our current email list.

Next Meeting Dates:

- Workgroup for Restorative Justice Proposal: April 3rd 3:00-4:30pm pm at Laramie High School Room 2049
- Workgroup for Day Treatment Services Proposal: April 4th 1:30pm 3:00pm Day Treatment Program at CHC Administrative Building
- Advisory Board Meeting: April 11th 11:30-1:00pm Big Brother Big Sisters Conference Room
- Steering Committee Meeting: April 26th 2:00-3:30pm Commissioner's Room

Proposal for Budget Change Request
SFY 2016 & 2017 Victim Services Funds

+Mission Statement: The mission of the Albany County Victim Witness (VW) Program is to provide an understanding of the court process and the rights of victims of crime through the court process and to ensure all victims have consistent treatment and equal access to competent services.

Program Goals:

1. To provide quality services as dictated by the Wyoming Crime Victim Bill of Rights to victims of crime within Albany County
2. To collaborate with agencies within the community, including the local criminal justice agencies who come in contact with victim(s) of crime in order to provide competent services

Program Desired Outcomes:

1. Victims will be aware of their rights as victims, the resources available to them, and have an understanding of the court process.
2. To provide consistent treatment and equal access to competent services.
3. To increase the resources of available community agencies and resources on behalf of the victims and the prosecutor's office.

Section I: Community Center

\$45,000

Statement of Need: Currently in Albany County, there are twenty-one juveniles on probation who are supervised by the Department of Family Services (DFS). In addition, DFS supervises four juveniles who were diverted from the juvenile criminal system.

The majority of these juveniles, who have offended, have also been victims of abuse, violence, or neglect, or witnessed domestic violence in their homes. Data gathered by the Wyoming Children's Trust Fund found that Albany County has the fourth highest rate of domestic violence (Davis, 2016). DFS was able to determine that at least thirty-four juveniles in the past two years in Albany County were considered crossover youth. Crossover youth are those that had a child protection history through DFS that were later filed through juvenile court. Adverse environments resulting from neglect, abuse, and/or violence can result in long term negative consequences. According to the Center for Disease Control, "Maltreatment causes stress that can disrupt early brain development and serious, chronic stress can harm the development of the nervous and immune system. As a result, children who are abused or neglected are at a higher risk for health problems as adults. These problems include alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, high-risk sexual behavior, smoking, suicide, and certain chronic stress" (2014). In addition, the majority of these juveniles come from lower socioeconomic families that typically lack a guardian with the ability, resources, or schedule to assure that the juvenile receives appropriate mental health and substance abuse services.

Project Description: Day treatment centers are highly structured, community-based, post adjudication and diversion, nonresidential programs for juvenile offenders. The benefits and research of day treatment services are noted to be: to provide an alternative to inpatient care with a considerably lower cost, serve as a transition from inpatient care to outpatient care, keep the child in the home while providing therapeutic programming, and provide more therapeutic resources than can be provided by outpatient treatment (Development Services Group, Inc. 2011).

Currently in Albany County, there are plenty of counseling services, but there is a gap in community services for juveniles that need more intensive treatment. Therefore, Albany County is left with the choice of continuing to provide juveniles with insufficient and low-intensity treatment, or sending them to out-of-community placements. This project is designed to address this gap by providing more intensive treatment while reducing the need to remove juveniles from their community, school, and families. It is the intent of this project to establish a Community Center by contracting with mental health service providers. These providers would offer a wide range of therapeutic interventions to juveniles in the

system with the objective to prevent future delinquent behaviors. These therapeutic interventions would help juveniles develop appropriate coping skills and behavior to help manage the trauma of their own victimization.

1. We intend to partner with the Albany County School District #1 (ACSD). The mental health service providers would utilize space within their high school to provide these therapeutic interventions in order to allow the juveniles to maintain their current class schedule. Each juvenile's school day will be structured in such a way that they can attend classes, while also having therapeutic interventions intertwined throughout the duration of their school day. The goals of these services are the following:
 - Provide evidence-based curriculum,
 - Encourage youth to manage feelings, such as anger and sadness,
 - Increase youth's self-esteem, coping, decision making, and peer relation skills,
 - Foster the development of skills to improve academic success,
 - Improve communication skills between peers and adults,
 - Offer education on issues, such as family problems, substance abuse, sexual abuse, and other health-related issues
 - Present alternatives to delinquent behavior patterns,
 - Provide recreational and expressive therapy opportunities, and
 - Help parents implement behavioral plans, so the therapeutic skills can be consistent between home and school.
2. Target Population: These therapeutic intervention services will be provided to juveniles that demonstrate substance abuse behaviors and the negative consequences associated with substance use, such as behaviors of defiance, hostility and negativism, violating the basic rights of others, and have difficulties dealing with the impact of abuse, violence, or neglect. These juveniles will be identified at the Albany County Juvenile Intake Team. This team consists of representatives from the following agencies: ACAO), ACSD, Big Brother Big Sisters (BBBS), Cathedral Home for Children, and DFS.

Project Desired Outcomes:

1. To decrease rates of juveniles adjudicated or convicted of an offense, convicted of a felony offense, and subsequently committed.
2. To reduce juvenile substance abuse.
3. To maintain or increase the juveniles' academic success.
4. To reduce recidivism.
5. To reduce out-of-community placements for these juveniles by providing juveniles and their families with additional voluntary services within their community.

Funding: Currently, most mental health services are covered by Medicaid or private insurance. In addition, eligible juveniles can receive funding through the Wyoming Victims Compensation Fund to help cover expenses not covered by Medicaid or private insurance. The VW Program through the ACAO would contract with two mental health service providers. Each mental health service provider would be responsible for providing at least one individual counseling session per week in addition to group and family counseling to at least twelve juveniles. These mental health providers would work with ACSD, DFS, ACAO and other appropriate partnering agencies to determine how these therapeutic intervention would be structured into the juveniles' school day. These one-time funds would be used towards the startup costs affiliated with developing and implementing this Community Center such as the cost of:

- Developing protocols,
- Developing the curriculum of the therapeutic interventions,
- Necessary materials for these therapeutic interventions,
- Developing and publishing brochures and handout for juveniles and their families, and

- Any additional training for the mental health providers.

It is the intent to utilize these funds as an incubator for this center and to then set up mechanisms to ensure sustainability.

<i>1 Mental Health Provider Startup Costs =</i>	<i>\$22,500</i>
<i>1 Mental Health Provider Startup Costs =</i>	<i>\$22,500</i>

Section II: Restorative Community Mediation \$10,249

Statement of Need: In 2011, the single-point of entry team, also referred to as the Juvenile Intake Team in Albany County, was placed within the ACAO. In 2015, guidelines were developed by a team of educators, ACAO, DFS, mental health providers and other partnering programs to determine referral processes.

It is the policy of the ACAO to identify unmet needs of youth referred to the single-point team in order to ensure that youth receive appropriate interventions that reduce risk for subsequent offenses. This includes review of education status and needs, as well as utilization of formal screening tools to identify treatment and service needs related to the offense. When information or screening indicates the need for interventions, an appropriate referral should be made without delay. Currently in Albany County, there are four levels of diversion. The first three levels are overseen by BBBS. Juveniles within the last level are referred to Juvenile Court and/or DFS. In 2015 and 2016, an average of 759 cases reported to law enforcement and/or DFS have been reviewed by the Juvenile Intake Team.

Project Description: Restorative justice focuses on the rehabilitation of juveniles through reconciliation with the victims and the community at large. The focus of a restorative community mediation is to hold the juvenile accountable, address who was affected, how the juvenile can repair the harm, and to provide healing and closure to the victims and/or community. It is the intent of this project to provide ACSD, DFS, and BBBS alternative methods to address the actions of juveniles who engage in anti-social behaviors. In addition, this project will provide the affected victims and/or community an opportunity to appropriately address their victimization directly with the juvenile. Albany County intends to consider the following when identifying and developing restorative community mediation programs:

1. Identify and train partnering agencies that would develop and implement these programs within their agencies. In addition, identify and train facilitators who would arrange and lead these discussions and community members that could be involved in these discussions.
2. Consider the following factors when developing and implementing the program:
 - A program designed to address the needs of the juvenile and victim;
 - Based on restorative justice principles;
 - Promote positive youth development;
 - Repairs harm through accountability and high support; and
 - Builds a sense of community.
3. Refer juveniles to the appropriate restorative community mediation programs for the following list of offenses:
 - Theft/Larceny
 - Vandalism
 - Disorderly Conduct
 - Simple Assault
 - School Disciplinary Offense
 - Traffic Violations
 - Criminal Trespass
 - Mischief/Criminal Nuisance
 - Harassment

- Loitering
- Possession of Stolen Property
- Drugs & Alcohol Violations

Project Desired Outcomes:

1. To decrease rates of juveniles adjudicated or convicted of an offense, convicted of a felony offense, and subsequently committed.
2. To reduce recidivism.
3. To reduce out-of-community placements for these juveniles.
4. To improve public safety.

Funding: These one-time funds would be used towards startup costs affiliated with providing the above-mentioned training opportunities to the community and facilitators. The following is a possible training program from Restorative Solutions, Inc. and their projected costs:

<i>3 Days of Training: 2 trainers @ \$1,000/day x 3 days =</i>	<i>\$6,000</i>
<i>Travel Fees: 2 trainers @ \$100 each way =</i>	<i>\$400</i>
<i>Mileage reimbursement: 300 miles @ \$.535/mile =</i>	<i>\$160</i>
<i>Per Diem: 2 trainers @ \$50/day x 3 days =</i>	<i>\$300</i>
<i>Lodging: \$150/night x 3 nights x 2 rooms =</i>	<i>\$900</i>
<i>Facilitator Training Manuals: \$10/manual x 10 people =</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Training Materials for Community Members: \$5/person x 25 =</i>	<i>\$125</i>
<i>Administrative Costs: 10% =</i>	<i>\$800</i>
Total=	\$8785

Please refer to the attached training proposal Catherine Childs Principal, Lead Trainer at Restorative Solutions, Inc. for additional information. In addition, Judge Teske from Jonesboro, Georgia and Judge Ingram from Shoshone, Idaho would provide a training to the community and facilitators. The following costs would be covered per a contract:

<i>Flight & Baggage: \$330 x 2 =</i>	<i>\$660</i>
<i>Lodging: 2 nights x \$150/night x 2 rooms =</i>	<i>\$600</i>
<i>Per Diem: 2 days each x \$51/day x 2 persons =</i>	<i>\$204</i>
Total=	\$1464

Section III: Restitution Recovery \$9,525.90

Statement of Need:

At Municipal Court through the City of Laramie, \$466,394.46 has been ordered to be paid to victims of crime, but currently \$162,025.19 is still owed to victims. In District Court, 2nd Judicial District, Albany County, \$1,047,942.49 has been ordered to be paid to victims of crime, but currently \$217,501.28 is still owed to victims.

There are various services that victims receive to address unpaid restitution in other states. For example, in Deschutes County, Oregon, "If the offender does not make payments the Judge could order that collection be turned over to the Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR) if the offender resides in Oregon. The DOR may garnish wages, bank accounts and withhold tax refunds etc." (Office of District Attorney, 2017). In 2002, Jefferson County District Attorney's Office formed a Restitution Recovery Unit as a means to assist the courts in the collection of fines, court costs, and restitution with their most important goal being to assure that the victims receive what is owed to them by the person who victimized them (District Attorney 10th Circuit, 2017).

Project Description: These type of programs are not available to victims in Albany County. In fact, according to W.S. § 7-9-111, in the event that the victim is not satisfied with the restitution plan approved

or modified by the court, the victim's sole and exclusive remedy is a civil action. For victims, this can be an overwhelming, time consuming, unknown process to pursue without appropriate assistance. In addition, many victims rarely have the resources to retain an attorney to assist them through this civil process and Prosecuting Attorneys have a very limited ability to obtain restitution on behalf of the victims through criminal courts. It is the intent of this project to use funding to contract with a national collection agency that can assist victims in Albany County that have not received consistent payments, or are still owed a significant amount of restitution.

Project Desired Outcomes:

1. To increase the Defendant's accountability by assuring that he/she is paying restitution owed to victims
2. To increase the resources available by the ACAO to victims in Albany County

Funding: The VW Program at the ACAO would contract with a national collection agency to assist victims through the civil process and the recovery of their restitution. These funds would be utilized to pay the collection fees that the victims would otherwise be required to pay in legal fees. As part of the contract with the collection agency, the program would negotiate a flat rate fee for each case and would require that that fee be collected from the defendant through the recovery process.

Section IV: Contract for Attorney Assistant

\$3,060

Statement of Need: Since the Victim Witness Program transition into the ACAO in July 2017, the VW Advocates have worked closely with the County Attorney and Prosecuting Attorneys to develop and implement victim centered protocols. Some of these protocols include that the VW advocates:

- Contact all victims and witnesses within ten days of the charging decision.
- Address with the Prosecuting Attorneys the return of victim property within thirty days of the charging decision and update the victim as to the decision and process.
- Set up and escort victims of crimes against the persons to an initial meeting with Prosecuting Attorneys and Investigating Officer. The purpose of these meetings are to introduce the parties involved in the criminal case, orient the victims to the court process, and to provide the victims with the opportunity to address any questions or concerns they have for the Prosecuting Attorney or Investigating Officer.
- Set up and escort all victims and witnesses to witness preparation meetings for cases going to trial with the Prosecuting Attorney and Investigating Officer. Victims and witnesses are oriented to trial process as well familiarize them with the courtroom.

With the addition of these protocols, the Prosecuting Attorneys consistently devote more time on cases with victims, but recently the ACAO has experienced major budget cuts and eliminated legal interns. To maintain these victim-centered protocols and their caseload, which have also increased, these legal interns have been essential to each Prosecuting Attorney.

Project Description: It is the intent of this project to use funding to contract with a legal intern that can assist victims, witnesses, VW advocates and Prosecuting Attorneys. The Prosecuting Attorneys will supervise the work assigned to the legal intern. Among some of the legal intern responsibilities include:

- As needed and when the Prosecuting Attorney schedule does not allow, hold initial meetings with victims of crimes against persons and as requested by victim of crimes of against property.
- As needed and when the Prosecuting Attorney schedule does not allow, hold witness preparation meetings with victims and witnesses of crimes against persons and property.
- Check in with the Prosecuting Attorney before holding any meetings with victims or witnesses.
- Assist the Prosecuting Attorney in securing expert witnesses in cases involving victims.
- Assist the Prosecuting Attorney and VW Advocates with other victim case related work.

Project Desired Outcomes:

1. Maintain protocols that have been implement for victims and witnesses.
2. Provide support for VW Advocates and Prosecuting Attorneys for victim related cases.
3. Provide quality and consistent services to victims and witnesses.

Funding: These funds would be utilized to pay the legal intern hourly rate for nine weeks. As part of the contract, a legal intern would work 20 hours per week at a rate of \$17.00 per hour.

$$20 \text{ hours/week} \times 9 \text{ weeks} \times \$17.00/\text{hour} = \$3,060.00$$

We would like to use any funds not awarded to this project for the Restitution Recovery project.

The following is a total breakdown of the request, identifying the line item description, as well as funding stream that will be utilized.

Other: (Contractual)

I: Community Center	\$45,000.00
II: Restorative Community Mediation	\$10,249.00
III: Restitution Recovery	\$9,525.90
IV: Contract for Attorney Assistant	\$3,060.00
	<u>TOTAL: \$67,834.90</u>
	VAWA-D \$19,225.76
	VOCA \$48,609.14

References:

Center for Disease Control, 2014. "Essentials for Childhood Steps to Create Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environment. Division of Violence Prevention. https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/essentials_for_childhood_framework.pdf

Development Services Group, Inc. 2011. "Day Treatment." Literature Review. Washington, DC.: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. http://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/day_treatment.pdf

Davis, Jennifer, 2016. "Understanding Childhood Trauma and How Past Experiences Shape Behaviors and Health Outcomes." Wyoming Children's Trust Fund.

Office of District Attorney, 2017. "Restitution." *Deschutes County District Attorney's Office* Accessed April 11, 2017. <http://www.dca.us/c5/victimsassistance/restitution/>

District Attorney 10th Circuit, 2017. "Restitution Recovery Unit." *Jefferson County District Attorney's Office* Accessed April 11, 2017. <http://www.jeffcoda.org/restitution-recovery.php>