

NATHAN DEAL
GOVERNOR



JAY NEAL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Minutes of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Monday, September 25, 2017
State Bar of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

Members Present

Judge Charles A. Fuller
Nicole Berger
Brad Bryant*
Director Homer Bryson
Director Cynthia Clanton
Brian DiNapoli*
Commissioner Greg Dozier
Joe Hood
Director Vernon Keenan
Commissioner Michael Nail+*
Jay Sanders
Pete Skandalakis*
Director Chuck Spahos
Director Bryan Tyson
Mr. Thomas Worthy*

Staff Present

Director Jay Neal
Robert Thornton
Rachel Kilgore
Aisha Ford
Ayanna Campbell-Williams
Beverly Dixon
Cassandra Webster
Christopher Wolf
Erwin Coleman
Jonathan Peart
Juanisha Lawson
Kristy Carter
LaTonya Smith
Natalie Williams
Nikitris Deloach

Robyn Bryant
Samantha Wolf
Shawana Ducksworth
Sherille Eunice
Shontel Wright
Stefanie Lopez-Howard
Stephanie Mikkelsen
Ursula Kelley
Zerlynda Fleming
Nathan Branscome

Guests

Barbara Hogan, Douglas County Task Force
Gayla Nobles, Southern Crescent Sexual Assault and Child Advocacy Center
Jen King, Court Appointed Special Advocates
Joan Prittie, Project Safe
Kimberly Daniel, Attorney General's Office
Marie Washington, Share House, Inc.
Melissa Tinsley Cates, Southern Crescent Sexual Assault and Child Advocacy Center
Myra Rasnick, Ahimsa House
Shannon Oxford, Ahimsa House
Taylor Jones, Administrative Office of the Courts

**Via conference call*

+ Alternate

Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Charles A. Fuller called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m., and Ms. Rachel Kilgore called the roll. Chairman Fuller called for a review of the minutes of the May 15, 2017 meeting and a motion to approve the minutes. Director Vernon Keenan made a motion to approve the minutes, Director Homer Bryson seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously passed.

Victim Assistance Grants Committee, Report by Mr. Joe Hood

The Victim Assistance Grants Committee met on Friday, September 15, 2017. Detailed listings of the Committee's recommendations are attached to these minutes. Regarding the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Domestic Violence Mini-Grant Program, the Committee recommended continuing subawards in the same amounts the agencies received in the prior year, totaling \$324,305. The Committee also recommended continuing the FVPSA Sexual Assault Mini-Grant Program awards in the same amounts the agencies received in the previous year, totaling \$60,000. Regarding the FVPSA Trafficking Mini-Grant Program, the Committee recommended continuing the award to fund International Women's House, which offers specialized core services to victims of trafficking in the amount of \$44,429.

The Committee also made the following recommendations regarding the Victims of Crime Act Assistance (VOCA) Formula Grant Program:

1. Delay action on application #'s 23-31, 79,104, 105, 107-115 and 165 – 172 pending risk assessments and the gathering of additional information by staff;
2. Provide tentative approval in the amount requested for application # 78 pending the receipt of federal approval that would allow VOCA program funds to be awarded to state-wide coalitions for training and other non-direct service activities;
3. Provide tentative approval in the amount requested for application # 106 pending the receipt of federal approval that would allow VOCA program funds to be awarded for state-wide training efforts;
4. Continue the prior year awards in the same amounts agencies received last year.
5. Deny competitive application #'s 18, 19, 134 and 151; and
6. Fund the remaining applications at the amount recommended by staff.

The Committee then recommended continuing subgrants under the Violence Against Women Act and Sexual Assault Services Program Grants in the amounts awarded in the prior year (unless the applicants successfully transferred their grants to the VOCA grant program this year).

Finally, the Committee recommended that, since the Georgia Commission on Family Violence Conference had been rescheduled due to Hurricane Irma, the types of employees who can utilize the CJCC-funded scholarships for this conference be expanded into other disciplines that work with victims.

Chairman Fuller called for a motion on the recommendations of the Victim Assistance Grants Committee. Director Chuck Spahos made the motion to approve all recommendations and Director Bryan Tyson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

State Advisory Group, Report by Mr. Robert Thornton

The Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group (SAG) met on June 23, 2017 and made recommendations under the Title II Formula Grant Program. In relation to *Strategies for Youth: Policing the Teen Brain*, the SAG recommends \$50,000 to conduct Strategies for Youth - Policing the Teen Brain Train the Trainer. The funding requested allows for five individuals to be trained as trainers and a cohort of 30 officers to be trained in the program, as well as ownership of all training materials. Regarding the *Work Readiness Program*, the SAG recommends \$32,900 for a one-time award to support the implementation of the Chatham County's pilot Work Readiness Program. This program is an 8-week juvenile court referred program for moderate to high-risk youth ages 14-16 designed to serve disconnected and marginalized youth with educational programming and training to address delinquent behavior. Chairman Fuller called for a motion on the recommendations of the State Advisory Group, Mr. Pete Skandalakis made the motion to approve and Mr. Hood seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Agency Report, Report by Director Jay Neal

Director Neal extended a welcome to Judge Goss, Chief Shields, and Ms. Jacqueline Bunn as new Council members. He then asked CJCC staff to share division updates with the Council. Mr. Nathan Branscome, Director of Administration, shared that the agency's rapid growth has led to significant transitions in the core agency processes, such as a new grant management system. Ms. Juanisha Lawson, Program Director within the Victims Compensation Division (VCD) shared that among the many new changes VCD has seen recently, the most prominent is the launching of the new victims' portal. Mr. Thornton, Director of the Grants and Policy Division, shared that the Georgia Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program received the Outstanding Program Award from the National Criminal Justice Association in July. Additionally, the 2017 Georgia Victim Assistance Academy saw 51 victim advocates attend the academy in August. Finally, Ms. Stefanie Lopez-Howard, Director of the Statistical Analysis Center, shared the recent opening of the DCS web portal to five community service boards, which has greatly improved the continuity of care for individuals.

Old Business, Report by Mr. Thornton

The recommendation for the Hall County Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program application that was previously held by the Council due to budget concerns has been revised by CJCC staff after discussions with Hall County. After these revisions, Mr. Thornton shared the recommendation to award \$28,000 for a 12-month project to Hall County using this RSAT funding. Mr. Hood motioned to accept the recommendation, and Director Spahos seconded. The motion carried.

Adjourn

Chairman Fuller asked for any questions or comments from Council members and members of the audience. With no questions or comments, Chairman Fuller adjourned the meeting at 12:04 p.m.