



Dave Heineman
Governor

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
(Nebraska Crime Commission)

Michael E. Behm, Executive Director
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94946
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4946
Phone (402) 471-2194
FAX (402) 471-2837

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice Meeting September 11, 2009

The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice Committee met Friday, September 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at the Madison County Court House, located at 1313 North Main Street, Madison, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was published August 28, 2009 in the Lincoln Journal Star.

Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m. by Linda Benjamin, Chairman.

Members Present: Linda Benjamin, Mark Benne, Alex Moreno, Cassy Blakely, Chris Rodgers, Ron Johns, Scott Swisher, Roger Wess, Nicole Brundo Goaley, Kevin Stukenholtz, Corey Steel, Kathy Moore (arrived 11:10 a.m.), Gerry Piccolo, Mike Reddish (representative for Terri Nutzman). **Members Excused:** Michael Behm, Reggie Ryder, James Blue, Ashley Frahm, Todd Reckling, Terri Nutzman, Jennie Cole-Mossman, Lawrence Gendler, Kay Glidden, Thomas McBride, Elaine Menzel, Tim O'Dea, Vanessa Sherman, Kent Turnbull, Derek Vaughn. **Members Unexcused:** Mike Long. **Staff Present:** Jennifer Kirkpatrick, Tiffany Mullison, Jamie Rivera, Monica Miles-Steffens and Alyson Stephens.

Introductions

All Coalition members and visitors of the coalition introduced themselves to the group. Nicole Brundo Goaley and Roger Wess were welcomed as new members; Corey Steel and Scott Swisher were welcomed as new designees.

Approval of June 5, 2009 Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Benne and seconded by Rodgers to approve the June 5, 2009 minutes. Voting in favor of motion: Benne, Moreno, Blakely, Rodgers, Johns, Swisher, Wess, Brundo Goaley, Stukenholtz, Steel, Moore, Piccolo. (Motion carried.)

Approval of Lunch

Motion

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Rodgers to approve funds for lunch. Voting in favor of motion: Benne, Moreno, Blakely, Rodgers, Johns, Swisher, Wess, Brundo Goaley, Stuckenholtz, Steel, Moore, Piccolo. (Motion carried.)

Presentation: Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, on the Nebraska Community Learning Network Center – Jeff Cole

Cole presented on The Nebraska Community Learning Center Network, a statewide public-private partnership supporting school-community collaborations that provide what children and youth need to be successful.

Nebraska Community Learning Center members provide leadership and influence which mobilizes sustainable resources and builds capacity systems to fulfill the mission. The NCLCN includes members from state and local government and education systems, community based organizations, the business community and other interested stakeholders. Activities focus on achieving the following goals:

- Create a sustainable Network built on statewide, regional, and local partnerships, particularly school-community partnerships, focused on supporting policy development at all levels.
- Support the development and growth of statewide policies that will secure the resources needed to sustain existing and new CLC programs.
- Support the development of statewide system encouraging high quality programs.
See attachment I.

Presentation: Commission for Juvenile Justice Youth Meeting in D.C. – Cassy Blakely, Youth Member

Blakely reported on her attendance of the Commission for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) National Youth Committee meeting. *See attachment II.*

Presentation: Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Conference – Cory Steel

Steel reported on his attendance of the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform Conference in Georgetown. Steel reported agenda items included approximately 2 days of training on multi systematic approach on how to break down the barriers within the juvenile justice system. Questions that generated discussion included but were not limited to: How to prevent children who have been a victim of child abuse from crossing over into the non status offenses, Once a child is a non status offender how to keep them from advancing into the status offenses, How can we stop this from happening when we have these children in the system at an early age, How can we could have provided more tools to help prevent this cycle.

Benjamin asked what would prevent this cycle from happening. Steel reported that with abuse/neglect children there is a need to provide mentoring/support systems along with working closely with the education system, in addition, to the already existing tools of counseling, coping skills, and helping the parent.

Swisher questioned what is needed from the education systems to help in this process. Steel reported children who are not engaged in school or school activities are at high risk. Steel would like to see probation and schools work together to engage juveniles to see “what things can we do together to help these children”. When children in the system are acting up in the classroom, it appears they are pulled from the school, suspended, etc., more quickly than non system children. Probation would like to work with the schools to provide more opportunities for the system children to show “we are in this together and what else can we try to keep this child in school.” When a child in the system gets in trouble at school, the probation officer, OJS, etc., is contacted prior to the parent. Steel reports it would be beneficial to connect youth to extracurricular programs.

Family Youth Engagement was heavily discussed as to how to get all parties involved from grandma who sees child four times a week to CASA workers instead of just the child and the probation officer which is the normal process for these meetings.

Steel reported he has completed his Capstone; it will be approved within 2 weeks. Steel reported the Nebraska Juvenile Service Delivery Project that has been started in Omaha was one of the ideas submitted and the idea that was selected by Georgetown as his Capstone project. Steel reported he will provide copies to Coalition members via email.

No handout materials were provided however Steel reported that he would email copies of any handouts from the conference to those who express interest.

Juvenile Justice Specialist Update was reported by Mullison. Mullison discussed the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). Mullison is exploring feasibility, impact, and approach. Groundwork has been laid with funds set aside to begin the process to start developing a plan.

Mullison reported Nebraska was required to resubmit their Title II application for federal funds because of the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) section. Doug Kramer, Statewide DMC Coordinator, assisted in revising the plan. A copy of this information is available to the public upon request.

Mullison reported she is recruiting new youth members. Mullison reported Judge Gendler, James Blue and Tim O’Dea will be completing their service to the Coalition in December. O’Dea’s seat will be filled by Dan Scarborough [YRTC – Geneva]. Mullison asked the Coalition for input regarding filling the District 1 and Separate Juvenile Court Judge membership vacancies.

Mullison and Rivera will attend the annual OJJDP conference in Austin, Texas this October. The four day conference will focus on DMC and Compliance Monitoring.

Compliance Monitor Update was reported by Rivera. Rivera and Julie Rogers, County Planner, are currently updating the three year County Plan process. This will focus on the Forty Developmental Assets and the YLS Risk Factors. Rivera reported that upon completion of updating the three year County Plan process materials as well as a presentation will be brought before the Coalition.

Rivera reported she has completed all of the Compliance Monitors for the Panhandle area. Rivera passed out Compliance Rules and Regulations handbooks and posters she created as a tool for Juvenile Compliance.

A Federal Audit was held over a five day time period for the Compliance Monitoring program. Rivera reports she, Mullison, and two federal auditors traveled throughout Nebraska visiting Juvenile Detention Centers and correctional facilities. Rivera reported the auditors were impressed with the Scotts Bluff County Detention Center and the Director (Johns). Auditors gave recommendations that several of the facilities should make changes to their Policies & Procedures elaborating more on their process for dealing with Juveniles. Rivera reports the federal representatives are requesting Rivera expand what she is currently monitoring to include every Sherriff's Office, Group Home, Detention facility, State Patrol, Residential Treatment Center, Mental Health facility, and Police Department that has the potential to hold a juvenile under court order. Rivera is working with DHHS to obtain a list of all juvenile facilities in the state. Rivera received feedback from the state of Indiana and will survey all facilities to gather pre-screening information (is the facility staff secure, not staff secure, etc.) Monitors are required once every three years. Rivera reported her Compliance Monitor Policy & Procedures Manual is in need of updates to meet federal requirements. Rivera received encouragement from the federal representatives and plans to make contact with other states who have implemented a Compliance Monitoring Subcommittee. Rivera would like to develop a Compliance Monitoring Subcommittee, underneath the NCJJ. This committee will identify barriers and strategies for the state among other things.

Rivera extended a huge Thank You to all Coalition members who participated in the Federal Audit.

Sub-Committee Reports

Executive Sub-committee was presented by Benjamin. Benjamin appointed Blakely as Chair of the Youth Subcommittee.

Benjamin reported on the National Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference. Benjamin reported that no NCJJ members attended. Benjamin will attend the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice Conference in Austin, Texas this October.

DMC Sub-Committee update was presented by Doug Kramer. Kramer reported he met with Dakota County regarding their DMC issues and has assisted them in setting and implementing goals. Kramer reported the committee is currently working on developing a three year plan for DMC to match the dates on the state plan.

Grant Review and Youth Sub-committee had no report.

Legislative Updates

Interim Studies was presented by Rogers. Rogers reports LB253 addresses the issue of a record number of juveniles in detention in Douglas County. A committee is being created to address this issue with hopes the study will help to lay the ground work to address this issue effectively and review alternatives to detention as well as decrease the current number of juveniles in detention. County Aid funding will also be reviewed as the steady decline in funds has strongly limit the community's resources to be able to provide youth with the much needed alternatives to detention.

Moore presented on her attendance of the National Juvenile Justice Network Meeting held in D.C. Moore discussed interest in developing a training that would provide informative materials and resources that could be updated and distributed yearly to Legislature at the time of hill visits to demonstrate Nebraska's needs in an effort to advocate for the needs of Nebraska's children.

See attachment III.

Miles-Steffens reported on the Reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act. The Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act is the act which awards funds for the State of Nebraska. The act contains four core requirements that Nebraska must adhere to in order to receive federal funds. The proposed reauthorization plan is located on the website of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice. It is important Coalition members be aware of a potential changes within the plan. A noteworthy proposed change would be new language regarding violation of a court order. Also the impact of a juvenile who is charged with an adult felony being held in an adult correctional facility could impact Nebraska's rural communities.

Approval of Request for Advisory Funds for Burns Institute DMC Training in San Francisco October 14-16, 2009. *See attachment IV.*

Motion

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Blakely to approve funding up to \$6,623.10 to pay for Victor Diaz, Ron Johns, Chris Rodgers, Derek Vaughn, Doug Kramer to attend the Burns Institute DMC Training with Advisory Funds: Voting in favor of motion: Benne,

Moreno, Blakely, Rodgers, Johns, Swisher, Wess, Brundo Goaley, Stuckenholtz, Steel, Moore, Piccolo. (Motion carried.)

Approval of Request for Advisory Funds for 2009 Central Nebraska Youth Summit, October 10, 2009. See attachment V.

Discussion was presented by Kirkpatrick raising the question and concern does this request for funding meet all financial requirements required for the expenditures of federal funds? Kirkpatrick shared that when federal funds are used for food costs, there are three requirements that must be met. Mullison will investigate the requirements. Upon completing these steps, Mullison will award the funds accordingly.

Motion

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Piccolo to approve funding up to \$4,000 on food or speaker fees pending investigation into federal requirements with Advisory Funds. Voting in favor of motion: Benne, Moreno, Blakely, Rodgers, Johns, Swisher, Wess, Brundo Goaley, Stuckenholtz, Steel, Moore, Piccolo. (Motion carried.)

Approval of Request for Advisory Funds for CJJ Youth Meeting in D.C., July 23-24, 2009.

Motion

A motion was made by Swisher and seconded by Benne to approve funding \$1,326.00 for Cassy Blakely to attend the CJJ Youth Meeting in July 2009 with Advisory Funds. Voting in favor of motion: Benne, Moreno, Blakely, Rodgers, Johns, Swisher, Wess, Brundo Goaley, Stuckenholtz, Steel, Moore, Piccolo. (Motion carried.)

Old Business:

Follow up discussion from December 5, 2008 Strategy Session of the NCJJ was tabled by Chair to ensue at the upcoming December 4, 2009 meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

None at this time.

Public Comment:

None in attendance.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m. Members and guests were invited to tour the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services facility by Mark Benne.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alyson Stephens". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Alyson Stephens
Staff Assistant

Attachment I



NEBRASKA Community Learning Center Network

Growing successful students, engaged families, stronger communities

Overview

The Nebraska Community Learning Center Network (N CLC N) is a statewide public-private partnership supporting school-community collaborations that provide what children and youth need to be successful.

N CLC N members understand that school success builds on and is supported by what happens in and around students' homes and neighborhoods, both before and after the end of the traditional school day. That is why the N CLC N supports sustainable, high quality, school-based and school-linked full service community learning centers that operate during the non-school hours to help meet the needs of Nebraska's youth, their families and their communities. While each CLC is different, responding to the differing needs of individual neighborhoods and communities, full service CLCs generally bring together core program components; these include afterschool and summer activities for youth, early childhood care and education programs, parental involvement activities, health and behavioral health services and community development programs.

N CLC N members provide leadership and influence which mobilizes sustainable resources and builds capacity to fulfill our mission. The N CLC N includes members from state and local government and education systems, community based organizations, the business community and other interested stakeholders. N CLC N activities focus on achieving the following goals:

- **Goal 1** – Create a sustainable Network built on statewide, regional, and local partnerships, particularly school-community partnerships, focused on supporting policy development at all levels
- **Goal 2** - Support the development and growth of statewide policies that will secure the resources needed to sustain existing and new CLC programs
- **Goal 3** - Support the development of statewide systems encouraging high quality programs

The N CLC N is pursuing these goals through implementation of the following strategies:

Current Activities

Expand and Deepen Partnerships

- Coordinate activities and expand collaborations between afterschool programs for youth with emerging parental engagement and early childhood care and education initiatives
- Collaborate with stakeholders in the Omaha metropolitan area to develop a sustainable network of high quality CLCs through a coordinated, city-wide effort
- Work with targeted Greater Nebraska communities to support new and on-going initiatives and to gain a better understanding of the challenges facing afterschool programs in rural communities
- Work with national organizations to incorporate best practices into Network activities and support the further development of model CLC programs in Nebraska
- Explore partnership opportunities with statewide and local initiatives including Nebraska P-16, Workforce Development, Service Learning, Career Education and Entrepreneurship Education.
- Expand partnerships with Universities, colleges, state agencies, advocacy groups, foundations and other partners to promote new opportunities to research, promote and initiate full service CLC programs
- Develop and grow a comprehensive data base of all afterschool programs in Nebraska



Inform Policy

- Coordinate CLC awareness events at the Capitol and across the state to raise awareness, build support, cultivate state level champions supportive of afterschool programs and community learning centers
- Facilitate interagency information sharing to identify current state spending on afterschool and youth development activities and community based services
- Engage state policy leaders in early childhood care and education to advocate for developing a systemic perspective that encourages better integration of afterschool programs for youth with early childhood care and education programs
- Collaborate with city / community / school leaders to develop local policies and leadership structures that help build collaborative, full service CLC initiatives
- Facilitate ongoing dialogue around priority afterschool issues at the state level
- Develop new relationships and deepen existing partnerships with elected officials and state agency leaders to develop policy supporting afterschool and CLC activities

Support and Enhance Quality

- Work with key policy making agencies on reforms to child care regulations addressing the specific needs school-aged care providers
- Collaborate with state level partners to promote and support integrated professional development opportunities that supplement and enhance regional meetings and learning opportunities
- Conduct research and distribute findings on elements of quality community learning center programs, with a focus on quality afterschool programs for children and youth
- Support pilot initiatives to develop quality programming serving middle school youth
- Utilize web-based technologies to improve Network communications and information sharing

Recent Network Accomplishments / Upcoming Activities

- Building on recently completed Core Competencies for Early Care and Education professionals, engaged in a collaborative, 14 month, statewide process to design, develop and write voluntary Core Competencies for afterschool programs serving school age youth.
- In conjunction with The Finance Project, piloting sustainability planning training for school-community partnerships supporting afterschool programs. During 2009, we began field testing this four month training process, along with on-line supports, with select communities in both urban and rural settings.
- Collaborated with state and community level partners to convene a Dropout Prevention Summit in May 2009. Supported by a grant from America's Promise, this summit focused on dropout prevention strategies, including afterschool programs that are utilizing service-learning programming aimed at preventing truancy.

Contact Information:

Jeff Cole, Network Lead

Nebraska Community Learning Center Network

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation

215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE 68508

P: 402.477-6422 / F: 402.476.9486

jcole@nebraskachildren.org

www.nebraskaclcnetwork.org

Bringing people together to achieve the best results for children and families.

Cultivating Opportunities. Realizing Dreams.

Attachment II

**Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Youth Committee Meeting
July 23 & 24, 2009
Agenda**

Thursday, July 23, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome, Introductions and Icebreaker – Ben Deaton, CJJ National Youth Committee Chair (KY), Mark Ferrante, Director, Leadership and Training Programs and Sue Kamp, Chair, CJJ Training and Technical Assistance Committee (VT)
- 9:45 a.m. Review of Meeting Goals/Objectives
- 10:00 a.m. Development of CJJ Training Curriculum for SAGs on Developing Youth Leadership and Support – Open Discussion led by Sue Kamp and Mark Ferrante
- 11:45 a.m. Break for Lunch
- 1:15 p.m. Review of CJJ Youth Manual Draft - Led by Ben Deaton and Mark Ferrante
- 2:30 p.m. Discussion of Youth Academy Development and Internship Program for 2010 – Led by Ben Deaton
- 3:30 p.m. Discussion of Youth Committee Fundraising and Development of Budget for 2010 – Led by Nancy Gannon Hornberger, CJJ Executive Director, and Ben Deaton
- 4:30 p.m. Wrap up of Day One

Friday, July 24, 2009

- 9:00 a.m. Review of Day One and Preparation for Meeting with OJJDP Representatives – Led by Ben Deaton and Mark Ferrante
- 10:00 a.m. Meeting with Scott Pestrige, OJJDP State Relations and Assistance Division (SRAD), and perhaps others from OJJDP (To include discussion of Youth Committee Meeting opportunity at the SRAD National Conference in Austin, TX, October 26-29, 2009)
- 12:00 p.m. Wrap up of Day Two and Discussion of Next Steps – Led by Ben Deaton

National CJJ Youth Committee Meeting - Washington, DC
Thursday, July 23rd & Friday, July 24th, 2009
Representative Report

Representative: Cassy Blakely

Introduction:

In mid-July it was decided that Nebraska would support a youth Nebraska Juvenile Justice Coalition (JJC) member to attend the Commission for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) National Youth Committee meeting. For this reason, I flew to D.C. for two-days of powerful and immensely productive meetings. This document and the attached items are meant to capture key components of that trip, action being taken by the national committee and possible ways for Nebraska to improve its youth involvement through enhanced engagement.

Highlights:

The CJJ Youth Committee meeting was industrious. The meeting took place at the CJJ offices in downtown Washington, DC. Of the many great ideas, conversations and actions taken, the items of most notability include:

- Youth Manual – A manual for new youth members has existed for several years; however, due to its lack of youth appeal, was mostly unused. The Committee decided that the first step to recruiting, preparing and retaining youth members was to revamp this document. In doing so, members would be equipped with an awareness of responsibilities and role, appropriate background knowledge, and familiarity with terminology and systematic structure.
- Youth Engagement Training – Vermont is leading the charge in creating a training that would assist State Advisory Groups (SAG) to recruit and retain youth. The training would involve ways to be youth friendly, break down barriers and build connections. See attached document titled “Youth Engagement Training” for more details.
- Committee Action Plan – See attached document titled “National Youth Engagement Project”.
- Face to Face meeting with Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) – The committee sat down with two representatives from the National OJJDP office to discuss potential opportunities for partnership around the Youth Committee Action Plan.

Impressions:

- National Problem – During this meeting, it became clear to me that youth recruitment and retention on SAG’s is a national problem. Nearly every state struggles and no state is doing it exceptionally. This was identified as such a significant issue that some recommended removing mandatory youth membership from the reauthorization of the act; however, was not. Thankfully, CJJ, OJJDP and the youth around the table felt that this core principle could not be excluded.
- Fixable problem - I discovered that it’s a direct criterion for federal funding and that nearly a dozen states have had dollars frozen due to a lack of youth on the SAG. This is a serious, but very fixable issue. There are many easy and cost effective steps that can be put into place. This effort is strongly supported at a national level in both the CJJ and OJJDP.
- Appropriate Engagement – I was surprised by my feeling of role confusion. As a professional in the Positive Youth Development field, it was odd for me to be sitting on a youth board. While I know that my age categorizes as such, my self-concept does not. I found myself re-examining the way I engage the youth I serve. As we work to build youth membership, it is vital that we understand how youth see their input fitting the mission of JJC. We must then work to appropriately involve young people. I learned that there was neither an age cap on youth membership nor a policy for transitioning youth members out or into a different role. As long as a youth is appointed before the age of twenty-four, he/she can remain on the membership list as a youth. This is clearly out of line with the spirit of the Act. I was concerned that youth’s names could be left on the list or members could remain on the coalition under the position of youth member just to meet funding criteria. A practice like this does nothing to ensure that youth voice is heard which undercuts the heart of SAG work.

Best Practices:

- Acronym Police – This was the concept that SAG meetings are filled with acronyms and system lingo. This effort would involve identifying an individual to ask for an explanation every time a new acronym or system

specific word/phrase was used. This would ensure that everyone understood the discussion and could be active.

- Stipends – Missouri and Kentucky among other states offer youth members a stipend for their time serving on the SAG.
- Mentoring System – Some states match each youth member with a mentor. This person is that youth's "go to" for questions about system terminology, committee events and any other clarification needs.
- Site Visits during Meetings – Kentucky holds meeting at their grant sites and makes a visit to the program part of the meeting. This allows the SAG to hear from young people in the program.
- SAG Retreats – New Mexico, New Jersey and Vermont hold full council retreats to build group cohesion, break down barriers, identify strengths and define goals.
- Separate Youth Boards – Kentucky sponsors a separate youth council. This group meets on its own and acts as an advisory group, along with doing its own projects.

Future CJJ Plans:

- Youth Manual Roll-Out – Revision of the youth manual is on-going. This document is planned to be released along side the Youth Engagement Training. Completion is projected for Spring 2010.
- Youth Engagement Training - The youth training is being pieced together by the CJJ Training Team. This training will be piloted at the Southern Regional Conference in Kentucky in early 2010. There are also plans to develop supplemental trainings that could be offered at a later date.
- Continued Meetings – The Youth Committee plans to continue to meet via conference call monthly. We will also take advantage of JJC and OJJDP conventions to meet face to face.
- Direct Contact – CJJ Regional Chairs have volunteered to personally call all SAG's in their region to discuss getting youth members involved in the National Committee work.

Possible Next Steps for JJC:

- Incentives – Offering stipends or finding another way to incentivize the work youth do could support greater youth involvement. A simple way to do this is giving youth clearly defined roles. A understood role can build a sense of importance and prestige. Roles could be playing out parts of the three-year plan or regular meetings.
- Promote a "Youth Friendly" Environment – A young person's reality is different that that of an adult. For example, all meetings occur during school hours. Moving the meetings to a later time would remove the need for youth to miss school. Another common issue is transportation. Many youth do not have a vehicle of their own or maybe even a driver's license. If members could work with youth to arrange rides, this could be easily resolved. Additionally, young people, unlike most other coalition members, do not have a broad knowledge of jargon and process. Ensuring that they properly trained and encouraged to ask questions can promote active participation.
- Removing Power Differentials – For all youth, especially those with experience in the Juvenile Justice System, sitting at the same table as judges, facility directors and other powerful adults can be extremely intimidating. Finding ways to highlight the youth's strengths and create an environment of equality is imperative. This can be done by removing labels by referring to all members by their first name rather than Dr. or Judge.
- Buddy System – There are many ways to do this such as assigning each youth an adult mentor or having "need-based" mentors that the youth can access when they choose. The intent is to ensure the youth has a resource person and feels connected and welcomed to the group.
- Grants – Grants are a large part of JJC meetings; however, most young people have no experience with grant writing or monitoring. Grant review documents and grant review criteria needs to be easy to understand. In addition, youth voice can be incorporated in grant review by making youth engagement a mandatory part of grant applications, asking youth in the grant program what they think or making youth review a part of awarding grants.
- Engage Existing Youth Councils – There are numerous existing youth councils that already have infrastructure, membership and expertise. These can be utilized to for coalition youth voice and to diversify perspectives.
- Start JJC Youth Councils – Creating a separate youth council that may send input or representatives to coalition meetings allows for the youth to meet when it is convenient to them. This option will take the most planning, management and funding. Nevertheless, it is well worth the effort.

DRAFT

National Youth Committee

Coalition for Juvenile Justice, July 23-24 2009

NATIONAL YOUTH MEMBER ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

The CJJ National Youth Committee values the unique perspectives that are shared and that positively influence the work of the JJDPA State Advisory Groups (SAGs) when youth SAG members are effectively engaged in the work of the SAGs.

The committee envisions several key improvements that will occur as a result of working with CJJ (and others) to increase the quality and amount of youth member engagement in the SAGs:

- individual SAGs will function more effectively;
- children and families will be better served in states and local jurisdictions;
- the collective voice of youth with experience and expertise in juvenile justice and delinquency prevention will be elevated, nationwide.

The CJJ National Youth Committee (and youth SAG member allies throughout the nation), will accomplish the following five goals in the next six months:

- 1) Write and publish a Youth SAG Member Manual for broad use across the nation;
- 2) Develop, pilot test and refine a Youth SAG Member Training Program, co-facilitated by youth and adult members of SAGs for SAGs seeking to enhance youth involvement, and incorporating a Power Point curriculum based on the above-mentioned youth manual;
- 3) Launch a National Youth Committee page on the CJJ Web site;
- 4) Implement the CJJ Spirit of Youth Award for 2010;
- 5) Explore and plan ways to incorporate youth training and youth-led presentations and panels into the CJJ Spring Conference.

Building on these successes, the committee is also expanding its mission. With CJJ, the Youth Committee seeks to achieve the following major goals:

Goal 1: Ensure that youth SAG members are not simply on every SAG's roster, but are actively engaged in the work of the SAG and its subcommittees.

Objectives under this goal include:

- Investigating what is happening now with youth member involvement.

- ❑ Interviewing youth about what the barriers to involvement may be; as well as what kinds of supports and situations help to encourage youth-member involvement.
- ❑ Conducting outreach with SAGs to assist them with problem-solving, training and technical assistance, or in other ways that would aid in the goal of greater youth involvement.

Goal 2: Work with youth and older SAG members to enhance the communication and understanding that develops when youth and older SAG members work in partnership, each valuing the others point of view.

Objectives under this goal include:

- ❑ Developing a training component/curriculum on how youth-older SAG members can work in partnership, including “what the SAG Chair can do” and “what the Specialist can do.”
- ❑ Developing a module on “strategic communications” for youth members (and others) to include communications tools and techniques for offering opinions, asking questions, raising constructive criticism in ways that allow for discussion vs. defensiveness. Include what it means to be an advisor and/or an advocate and how to work-through disagreements/tension.

Goal 3: Engage a larger number of youth SAG members in national-level activity with CJJ and other allies.

Objectives under this goal include:

- ❑ Securing youth member liaisons to the National Youth Committee from all SAGs who are asked to convey information to and from the states and to keep their SAGs apprised of national developments.
- ❑ Invite youth members to become involved in CJJ committees, to write articles for the CJJ e-Monitor and to become integrally involved in the entire fabric of the organization.
- ❑ Develop a summer fellows program/academy for youth members that would include training and opportunities to interact with congress, the federal agencies and other organizations working in the nation’s capitol on juvenile justice and related issues.

Youth Engagement Training

Notes from CJJ Youth Committee Meeting Discussion of Youth Leadership Training Curriculum
July 23, 2009

Present: Cassy Blakely (Nebraska), Drew Peterman (Idaho), Ben Deaton (Kentucky), Danielle Chelmo (Minnesota), Erin Lear (Missouri), Sue Kamp, Mark Ferrante

Youth Memories from their first SAG Meeting:

- Went to the first meeting with no orientation or introductions to those present.
- The acronyms and jargon made things really confusing.
- It was intimidating to speak
- It was hard to know what they were talking about
- It was intimidating for youth who had been in the system to be sitting at the table with judges, probation officers, etc.
- The meeting was during school hours, which was difficult.

General ideas:

- Have a call before the first meeting to introduce the new member to the work of the group and make a connection with one person that they will meet at the meeting.
- Use "acronym police" so things are defined as the conversation happens
- Do an orientation or new SAG member training before the first meeting
- Offer stipends for meetings, so it is easier for youth to cover expenses
- Have mentors for new members
- Provide positive reinforcement for youth who participate
- Ask youth directly for their opinions as discussions occur
- Provide trainings for youth on effective grants management
- Provide a write up for each grant to show what it will do and how it will affect the community
- Hold meetings at program sites so the program could be observed or staff can discuss the program with the SAG. This will encourage moving the meetings around the state to make them more convenient.
- Youth members do site visits to grantees.
- Have a youth advisory board that meets separately from the SAG with one youth rep from the advisory board that attends the SAG meeting (This was discussed among the group and they agreed they would rather be at the SAG meeting, rather than in a separate group.)
- Youth Committee of the SAG does service projects and does its own three year plan. The activities of the youth three year plan are budgeted into the SAG's allocation.
- In Minnesota, there is a youth committee with all the youth from the SAG. They are inviting non-SAG member youth to join the committee as well. The staff attends these meetings to answer questions, etc.
- Do recruitment for youth members through groups that have youth advisory boards, grantees, high schools, etc.

Training format ideas:

- Make it interactive- a facilitated training with activities and discussion- NOT PowerPoint. Work to break down the power differential within the group.

What elements of a youth leadership training curriculum would be most valuable?

- Strategic Sharing- how to share, when to share and what to share.
- How to feel comfortable speaking up, rather than being quiet to expedite the discussion.
- Managing difficult situations, differing opinions, etc.
- Acronyms, jargon
- How to dress
- Culture of the SAG and what is appropriate (formal or informal meetings, etc.)
- Having mentors for youth members
- Have a youth committee which uses Facebook
- Debriefing for the whole group to help orient- either before or after the first meeting.
- Orientation when new SAG member training isn't happening right away.
- Have all new members start at the same time to help with group orientation
- Do an acronym activity to help learn them such as Jeopardy or a crossword puzzle
- Remind that it is OK to say I don't know
- Provide resources to help with new knowledge
- Be sure there is new SAG member training at regional meetings, so there are more opportunities to get this training.

What are the keys to successfully integrating youth in the SAG's work?

- Do a Q and A session on a topic the youth are experts on.
- Send youth to a conference to learn more
- Youth talk to their school resource officers or student assistance or drug counselors to bring back information to the SAG
- Have a Youth Committee as a standing committee of the SAG
- Help adult members understand why youth are on the SAG
- Have youth member comments integrated into the conversation, rather than holding the conversation with adults and asking youth afterward what they think

What has helped most as you became a member of your SAG?

- Encouragement from adult members
- Specialist is invested in having active youth
- Youth participate on subcommittees and with grant review
- Youth committee of CJJ reaching out to new youth members to welcome them

Adults need to know:

- Youth come from different backgrounds
- Youth have little experience with politics
- Some youth are apolitical
- There are more similarities between youth and adults than differences
- Youth have ideas to share- they should be able to share them

- Listen to youth- don't discount youth
- Interact with youth on equal levels- each have one vote- view them as peers

Attachment III



National Juvenile Justice Network

NJJN POLICY PRIORITIES JUNE 2009

The National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN) is a membership organization of state-based groups that work towards state and federal laws, policies and practices that are fair, equitable and developmentally appropriate for all children, youth and families involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, the justice system. NJJN's membership is furthering the following policy priorities in the 111th Congress in order to provide states with resources and guidance to respond appropriately to juvenile delinquency.

Reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP)

First enacted in 1974 and most recently reauthorized in 2002 with bipartisan support, the JJDP sets forth federal standards for the custody and care of court-involved youth and establishes a federal-state partnership for delinquency prevention and juvenile justice reform, while also upholding community safety and the prevention of victimization. We believe that S. 678 strengthens and updates critical components of the JJDP by making meaningful improvements that expand several of the core protections and other areas contained in the bill.

Restore Appropriations for Juvenile Justice Programs and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

Through several grant programs and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), the federal government provides states with the tools they need to implement the JJDP and respond appropriately to delinquency. Unfortunately, in the last decade, appropriations for these programs and the dedicated juvenile justice Office have continued to decline, depriving states of the resources they need to protect public safety. Furthermore, ninety-five percent of the funding for Title V funds have been earmarked, undermining the ability of states to fulfill the letter and the spirit of the JJDP, and complicate the ability of the federal government and the states to ensure that federal funding is being invested wisely and yielding measurable reductions in juvenile crime and delinquency. NJJN recommends that the federal government:

- Restore the JJDP Title II program to at least its FY 2002 level of \$89 million.
- Restore the JJDP Title V program to at least its FY 2002 level of \$95 million, with no earmarks.
- Restore the JABG program to at least its FY 2002 level of \$250 million.
- Restore OJJDP's operational budget to at least its FY 2002 level of \$6.8 million.

Appoint a Strong and Visionary Leader to Head OJJDP

To optimize the federal role in delinquency prevention, it is imperative that the President appoint, and that Congress confirm, a seasoned OJJDP Administrator. The appointment of the next OJJDP Administrator should be premised on the values of working in partnership with the states and being a strong voice for juvenile justice reform in order to maximize the impact of the federal role in juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

Enact the Youth PROMISE Act

The Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunity, Mentoring, Support and Education ("Youth PROMISE") Act will provide for increased federal investments and coordination to support evidence-based prevention and intervention efforts at the local level, in the form of mentoring initiatives, after-school programs, family strengthening services, youth

leadership development, etc., to reduce victimization, keep children involved in productive activities and provide for cost-effective use of public resources. The Youth PROMISE Act was recently re-introduced in the 111th Congress with strong bicameral and bipartisan support. The House bill, H.R. 1064, is co-sponsored by Reps. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Michael Castle (R-DE). The Senate bill, S. 435, is co-sponsored by Senators Robert "Bob" Casey (D-PA) and Olympia Snowe (R-ME).

Enact the Juvenile Justice Accountability and Improvement Act of 2009

The Juvenile Justice Accountability and Improvement Act of 2009 (HR 2289) would eliminate the sentencing of youth to life without the possibility of parole (JLWOP) as well as help states improve the quality of indigent defense for youth. The United States is the only country in the world that believes that youth are beyond rehabilitation and sentences youth to spend the rest of their natural lives in prison. The Juvenile Justice Accountability and Improvement Act of 2009 would allow for careful, periodic reviews to determine whether, 15 years later, people sentenced to life without parole as youth continue to pose a threat to the community.

Amend the SORNA Title of the Adam Walsh Act and Related Guidelines

Enacted into law in 2006, the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act ("the Walsh Act") aims to safeguard children and youth from sex offenders. Title I, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), however, includes mandatory provisions that do not comport with research findings and evidence-based practices. Chief among these provisions is a mandate that youth adjudicated within the juvenile court for certain sex-based offenses be required by their state to register with a national public registry for a period of 25 years to life. NJJN recommends that the President and the Congress call upon the U.S. Department of Justice to reopen and revise the final guidelines pertaining to SORNA which were promulgated in June 2008; and amend SORNA to exclude mandatory registration for juveniles adjudicated within the juvenile court.

Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Instituted as international law in 1990, the United States, along with Somalia, remain the only two nations that a party to the United Nations who have not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The CRC's provisions include treating youth with humanity and respect, using confinement as a last resort and for the shortest time possible, and a prohibition on sentencing youth to life without parole. NJJN recommends that Congress call on the President to submit the CRC for ratification.

Enact the National Criminal Justice Commission Act

Introduced by Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) with the bipartisan support of more than a dozen Senators, S. 714, the National Criminal Justice Act of 2009, will create a blue-ribbon commission charged to undertake an 18-month, comprehensive review of the entire U.S. criminal justice system – including trying, sentencing and incarcerating youth under the age of 18 as adults. At the end of its review, the Commission will propose concrete reforms designed to responsibly reduce the nation's overall incarceration rates; improve federal and local responses to international and domestic gang violence; restructure the nation's approach to drug policy; improve the treatment of mental illness; improve prison administration; and establish a system for reintegrating men and women returning home from prison.

NJJN's policy analysis and education activities are generously supported by its state members and other unrestricted sources of revenue.

For more information contact:

Abby Anderson
Executive Director, Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance
Co-Chair, National Juvenile Justice Network

Betsy Clarke
President, Illinois Juvenile Justice Task Force
Co-Chair, National Juvenile Justice Network

Sarah Bryer
Director, National Juvenile Justice Network
1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW, 10th Floor
Washington, D.C.
202-467-0864 ext 105
info@njjn.org

For more information on the National Juvenile Justice Network, visit: www.njjn.org.

Attachment IV

Nebraska Coalition of Juvenile Justice
Conference Funding Request

JUL 14 2009

NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION
301 CENTENNIAL MALL SOUTH
LINCOLN, NE 68509-4946

Requests for funding from NCJJ must be juvenile justice specific and can be requested to support conference speaker fees and expenses. Funds must be requested and approved by the Coalition prior to conference. If approved by the Coalition, a contract will be prepared for signature.

Please submit form and send a signed hard copy of this form to:

Tiffany Mullison
Nebraska Crime Commission
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94946
Lincoln NE 68509-4946

Requestor name and organization:

Signature: D. Kramer Date: 7/12/09

Doug Kramer, DMC Coordinator and NJJA President
P.O. Box 67
Kearney, NE 68848
(308) 233-5229

Conference name: **Fall DMC Training Institute**

Speaker name: **James Bell- W. Haywood Burns Institute**

Date of Conference: **October 14-16, 2009 in San Francisco**

Please explain subject matter of this conference and how it relates to juvenile justice. Discuss the materials to be presented by the conference speaker for which funds are being requested.

Requesting three individuals: 1) Victor Diaz-DMC Subcommittee Member & Dawson County DMC Committee; 2) Dennis Banks-DMC Subcommittee Member & Lancaster County DMC Committee Member; 3) Doug Kramer, NE DMC Coordinator; to attend the Fall DMC Training Institute: "Successful Strategies to Reduce Racial & Ethnic Disparities."

This training was developed by the W. Haywood Burns Institute to train JJ Specialists, DMC Coordinators, DMC Committees, and SAG Members to reduce

racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system. This training will provide the needed information to engage communities throughout the State of Nebraska to work together in partnership to develop community based and statewide strategies to decrease disparities throughout the juvenile justice system.

Victor Diaz	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC – Rural	$\$400 + \$40 + \$40 + [41 \text{ miles} \times 2 \text{ ways} \times \$0.55 = \$45.10]$ = \$525.10	W = \$64 T = \$31 + \$3 F = \$18 + \$31 + \$3 = \$150	\$1,350.10
Dennis Banks	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC – Lincoln	$\$333 + \$40 + \$40 + [15 \text{ miles} \times 2 \text{ ways} \times \$0.55 = \$16.50]$ = \$429.50	W = \$18 + \$31 + \$3 T = \$31 + \$3 F = \$18 + \$31 + \$3 = \$138	\$1,242.50
Doug Kramer	08-JJ-19 & 07-JJ-03	DMC – Statewide	$\$400 + \$40 + \$40 + [20 \text{ miles} \times 2 \text{ ways} \times \$0.55 = \$22] = \$502.$	W = \$64 T = \$31 + \$3 F = \$18 + \$31 + \$3 = \$150	\$1,327

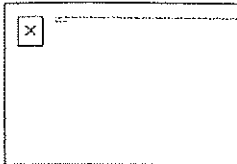
Total: $\$1,350.10 + \$1,242.50 + \$1,327 = \$3,919.60$

Doug Kramer
 NE DMC Coordinator
 308-233-5229
 308-293-1941d
 dkramer45@gmail.com

Proposed Budget for the Fall DMC Training Institute, Successful Strategies to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Name of Traveler	Source of Funding	Representing	Travel Airfare+bags+ground travel+mileage	Food B=\$12, L=\$18, D=\$31, Incidental =\$3 W = \$18+\$31+\$3 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$138 W = \$18+\$31+\$3 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$138	Total [including \$125 registration & \$550 lodging]
Tiffany Mullison	Grants Division, Crime Commission	Crime Commission	\$333+\$40+\$40+[15miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$16.50] = \$429.50		\$1,242.50
Dennis Banks	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC - Lincoln	\$333+\$40+\$40+[15miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$16.50] = \$429.50	W = \$18+\$31+\$3 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$138	\$1,242.50
Doug Kramer	08-JJ-19 & 07-JJ- 03	DMC - Statewide	\$400+\$40+\$40+[20miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$22] = \$502.	W=\$64 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$150	\$1,327
Ron Johns	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC Statewide Chair	\$380+\$40+\$40+[210miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$231] = \$691	W=\$64 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$150	\$1,516
Victor Diaz	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC - Rural	\$400+\$40+\$40+[41miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$45.10] = \$525.10	W=\$64 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$150	\$1,350.10
Chris Rodgers	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC -- Omaha and NCJJ	\$300+\$40+\$40+[20miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$22] = \$402	W = \$18+\$31+\$3 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$138	\$1,215
Derek Vaughn	2007 Advisory Funds	DMC -- Statewide and NCJJ	\$300+\$40+\$40+[20miles x 2 ways x \$.55=\$22] = \$402	W = \$18+\$31+\$3 T = \$31+\$3 F = \$18+\$31+\$3 = \$138	\$1,215
Grand Total					\$9,108.10

\$7,856.60 for 6 to attend;
\$5,296.10 for Johns, Diaz, Rodgers & Vaughn.



Fall DMC Training Institute

Successful Strategies to Reduce Racial & Ethnic Disparities

October 14-16, 2009

180 Howard St, San Francisco

4th Floor Suites A-C

Lodging and Travel

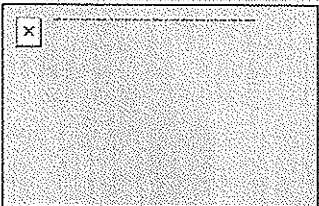
Travel Agency

Hotels

Shuttles

DMC TRAINING INSTITUTE AGENDA

*180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA
94105*



Wednesday, Oct. 14
3rd Floor, Suite 320

5-6:30PM

Registration

5:30-6:30PM

Reception

Thursday, Oct. 15
4th Floor, Suites A-C

8-9AM **Breakfast/Registration**

9-9:30AM **Overview**

REGISTER TODAY by clicking [here](#).

The W. Haywood Burns Institute invites you to register for its innovative training institute for jurisdictional stakeholders interested in disparities reduction work. This training enhances the strategies of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and Models for Change (MfC).

The BI developed this training for JJ Specialists, DMC Coordinators, DMC Committees, SAG members and anyone interested in engaging specific efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities. The training will address the structural fundamentals necessary for reducing disparities; using data most effectively; and engaging communities of color as critical partners in developing disparities reduction strategies.

SPACE IS LIMITED! Participation is offered on a "first come, first serve" basis. We are keeping the numbers small to maximize interactive dialogue. The DMC Training and Hotel Registration Deadline is Friday August 14, 2009. The \$125 registration covers the cost of training materials and includes light hors d'oeuvres Wednesday evening, breakfast and lunch on Thursday and breakfast on Friday.

9:30-10AM **WHBI
DMC Approach;
History**

10-11:30AM
**Identifying Racial
Disparities/
Systemic Change**

11:30-11:45AM
BREAK

11:45AM-1PM **Using
Data to Reduce
Disparities**

1-2PM **LUNCH**

2-3PM **Community &
System Stakeholder
Engagement**

3-4PM **Problem
Solving Exercise
(Small Group
Activity)**

4-4:15PM **BREAK**

4:15-5PM **Debrief
Small Group Activity**

5-5:30PM **Written
Evaluations/
Wrap-up Q&A**

**Friday, Oct. 16
4th Floor, Suites A-C**

8-9am **Breakfast**

9-10:30AM
**Developing
Individual
Jurisdiction Work
Plans**

10:30-11:30AM
**Debrief Work Plan
Development**

11:30-12PM **Written
Evaluations/
Wrap-Up Q&A**

About James Bell

Due to the high tourist season, the BI recommends that you make your travel arrangements in advance to avoid paying higher prices closer to the training date. The BI has negotiated discounted rates with a travel agency and hotels that if utilized will reduce your overall costs. The BI is not responsible for any travel including in-town transportation or related fees.

For more information, feel free to contact Ophelia Williams at 415-321-4100 x111.

*REGISTRATION IS ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS. SPACE IS LIMITED. IF REGISTRATION IS FULL BEFORE AUGUST 14, 2009, THE BURNS INSTITUTE WILL BE UNABLE TO ACCEPT REGISTRANTS AND THE REGISTRATION DATE WILL NO LONGER APPLY. REGISTRATION IS NON-REFUNDABLE. A REGISTRATION CAN BE APPLIED TO A DIFFERENT REGISTRANT IF REQUESTED BY THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER. SOME RESTRICTIONS DO APPLY SO PLEASE CONTACT Ophelia Williams DIRECTLY FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

Travel Agency

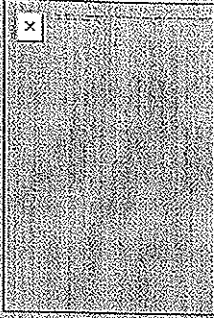
KNC Travel
KNC@KNCtravel.com
(800) 300-4562
Contact Name: Hans

Hotels

1) Harbor Court Hotel
www.harborcourthotel.com
165 Steuart Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 882-1300
Hotel Contact: Diana Ng

WHBI Discounted Rate:
Single/Double occupancy: \$249/night
Distance from training: .2 Miles (5 minute walk)

2) Tuscan Inn Fisherman's Wharf
www.tuscaninn.com
425 N Point St
San Francisco, CA 94133
(415) 561-1100
Hotel Contact: Diana Ng



James Bell is the Executive Director of the W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI). He is a national leader implementing innovative strategies to reduce ethnic and racial disparities in the juvenile justice system.

He recently authored a report, "Adoration of the Question," which examines how juvenile justice systems have failed to confront the problem of disparities.

Youth Today called the report, "An excellent primer on DMC, which everyone should become familiar with." Download a copy from the [BI website](#).



WHBI Discounted Rate:

Single/Double Occupancy: \$217/night
 Triple/Quad Occupancy: \$249/night
 Distance from training: 1.9 Miles (7 minutes with taxi/20 minutes on public transit/35 minute walk)

Overflow Hotel:

3) Oakland Marriott City Center
www.marriott.com
 1001 Broadway
 Oakland, CA 94607
 (510) 451-4000
Hotel Contact: Amanda

WHBI Discounted Rate:

Single/Double Occupancy: \$149/night
 Distance from Meeting location: 10.3 Miles (25 minutes by taxi/20 minutes on train - train is most cost effective)

Shuttle Service

Advance on-line reservations recommend

GO Lorrie's Airport Shuttle
<http://www.gosfovan.com>
 444 San Mateo Ave #B
 San Bruno, CA 94066
 (415) 334-9000
Shuttle Service Contact: Lisa

Advance online price: \$15 one-way/\$28 round
 Walk up: \$16.00 one-way

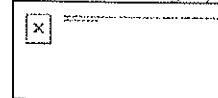
Quick Links

- [About the BI](#)
- [Our Website](#)
- [Services](#)

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W. Haywood Burns Institute | 180 Howard Street | Suite 320 | San Francisco | CA | 94105

Attachment V

RECEIVED

Nebraska Coalition of Juvenile Justice
Conference Funding Request

JUL 28 2009

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON
LAW ENFORCEMENT AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Requests for funding from NCJJ must be juvenile justice specific and can be requested to support conference speaker fees and expenses. Funds must be requested and approved by the Coalition prior to conference. If approved by the Coalition, a contract will be prepared for signature.

Please submit form and send a signed hard copy of this form to:

Tiffany L Mullison
Nebraska Crime Commission
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94946
Lincoln NE 68509-4946

Requestor name and organization: Buffalo County Community Partners
Attention: Laci Olson
PO Box 1466
Kearney, NE 68848
(308)-865-2283
Email: lolson@bcchp.org

Signature: Denise Zwiner Date: 7-27-09

Conference name: 2009 Central Nebraska Youth Summit

Speaker name: Kevin Wanzer

Date of Conference: October 10, 2009

Amount Requested: \$4,000

Please explain subject matter of this conference and how it relates to juvenile justice. Discuss the materials to be presented by the conference speaker for which funds are being requested.

This request is for the 2009 Central Nebraska Youth Summit, sponsored by Buffalo County Community Partners and the Buffalo County Youth Advisory Board. The Buffalo County Youth Advisory Board will be hosting its 3rd Annual Youth Summit on October 10, 2009 in Kearney Nebraska. The Central Nebraska Youth Summit is a **free** event open to 6th-12th grade students who reside in the Central Nebraska region. The summit is a fun-filled day created for youth by youth. This year's theme *Define Yourself*, represents the

uniqueness of youth in Central Nebraska and highlights the successful youth organizations, communities, schools, congregations, and youth prevention groups.

The Buffalo County Youth Advisory Board (YAB) is a youth led board working together to create a healthier community for youth in Buffalo County. Youth advocacy is an important aspect of YAB in order to empower youth to solve problems that affect other youth in their community.

The summit is designed to teach youth leadership, community involvement, and youth engagement. Through out the day youth will participate in leadership sessions using hands on activities and interactive learning sessions. Youth will learn how to solve youth issues using youth ideas, and the importance of youth advocacy. During the course of the event youth will develop action plans, encourage youth engagement, or a specific community service project they have designed.

Last year, the event brought in 125 youth from the Central Nebraska Region. This year we are expecting 175-200 youth. The event was a success due to partnerships with schools, community groups, Region 3 Behavioral Health Services, Buffalo County Attorney's Office, NO LIMITS Nebraska and others who promoted the event in the community. Last year the summit was listed as a requirement for the youth 12-17 currently on diversion. The event promotes a safe and drug free event for youth in the community. The messages are centered on respecting yourself and others as well as maintaining a healthy lifestyle and refraining from the use drugs and alcohol. This year we are expanding this collaboration to others around the state including the Governor's Youth Advisory Council, Grand Island Substance Abuse Coalition, and Sherman County Policy and Prevention Board.

This year we are honored to have Kevin Wanzer as the keynote speaker. Kevin offers a fast- paced comedy message to empower young audiences, allowing them to see their own possibilities. Kevin uses the philosophy of the ALOHA spirit to guide him in empowering others. The ALOHA spirit represents the essential tools one needs to live the life they were born to live. For more information on Kevin's programs please visit www.kevinwanzer.com.

This is an all day event. The day will consist of the summit during the day, youth awards banquet in the evening, which will be open to the community, and a youth dance in the evening to wrap up the day activities. Due to new regulations on Drug Free Community federal grant funding our costs to provide, breakfast, lunch, an afternoon snack, and dinner for the event are no longer an allowable cost. The cost of the speaker is covered through the federal grant funding sources. The event is free, so there is no charge for youth to attend. Community members who attend the banquet will be charged \$25.00 to attend, but that would potentially only bring in \$750.00 if 200 people attend.

The event is being held at the University of Nebraska Kearney Health and Sports Arena, therefore we are required to use onsite catering services, therefore limiting us from bringing in our own food, or an outside caterer. The total amount for food has been

quoted in the amount of \$7,000 dollars. We currently have \$3,000 dollars available for food from other grant sources. There is great benefit from having the event be open to youth with no cost, and if we are not able to provide meals, then this could be a contributing factor for youth not being able to attend.

The event currently is in its third year and continues to grow. We hope to continue to expand our reach, creating a positive opportunity for youth to learn more about themselves and how to create change in their community. If granted these funds Community Partners will be able to provide adequate meals to youth in attendance and will not have to restrict the number of youth who will be able to attend due to meal costs.