

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Children and Youth Committee of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health			Attending: Amy Polsin, Phyllis Greenberger, Jason Cram, Phillip Robinson, Inshirah Farhoud, Andrea Turtenwald, Hugh Davis, Sara Heyn, Peggy Helm-Quest, Tim Peerenboom, Kimberlee Coronado, Rick Immler, Elaine Marie Kruswicki-Demarr, Monique Hicks, Anne Larson
Date: 8/5/2021	Time Started: 1230pm	Time Ended: 330pm	
Location: Zoom meeting			Presiding Officer: Amy Polsin and Phyllis Greenberger

Minutes

Members of the Children Youth Committee (CYC) in Attendance: Amy Polsin, Phyllis Greenberger, Jason Cram, Phillip Robinson, Inshirah Farhoud, Andrea Turtenwald, Sara Heyn, Tim Peerenboom, Hugh Davis, Kimberlee Coronado

Department of Health Services Staff/Other state staff in Attendance: Monique Hicks, Patricia Monroe, Laura Newman, Ann Kelley-Kuemichel,

Members of the Public in Attendance: Brianna Hinnenkamp

1: Call to Order

- Members were welcomed and everyone introduced themselves. Amy Polsin read the meeting guidelines.
- Amy Polsin made a motion to approve the June 3, 2021 minutes and Jason Cram seconded. The minutes were reviewed with no corrections.

Vote

Amy	Y	Jason	Y	Phil	Y
Andrea	Y	Lana	--	Phyllis	Y
Hugh	Y	Kim	--	Rick	---
Inshirah	ABS	Peggy	--	Sara	--
				Tim	Y

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2021 and will be held virtually via zoom.
- Announcements:
 - o Jason Cram shared that there are some free trainings coming up related to Coordinated Services Teams and Comprehensive Community Services: <https://www.wicollaborative.org/state-meetings.html>
- Public comment - No public comment.

2: Report from the July Council Meeting- Kimberlee Coronado

- The focus of the council is on access and equity in regards to funding and access for underserved populations. The council reviewed the Mental Health Block Grant application and how it aligns with the needs identified by the council. The council will be utilizing Zoom for the agency fall tours to learn about programs and needs. The council will be working with SCOADA on their Access and Equity Workgroup

3: School Safety Discussion

Phyllis Greenberger gave a recap about the conversations about School Resource Officers (SRO's) which started as a budget recommendation item and evolved into a conversation about whether or not this committee supports SRO's in schools. The presentations included: Tim Peerenboom from the Department of Public Instruction gave an overview about mental health and school safety; Kristin Devitt from the Office of School Safety gave an overview of school safety initiatives, current funding and programs; Dr. Ben Fisher from the University of Louisville presented a literature review

about research on School Resource Officers (SROs); A group from Wausau school district including SRO's, school administrators, crisis personnel presented their SRO program.

The committee discussed the following three questions:

What are your biggest takeaways from everything we've discussed and heard?

- Many felt they need more information including perspectives from Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), perspectives from parents and students, insight into more school districts programs, research that addresses the positive impact of SRO's on school safety, more information on seclusion and restraint and the correlation in districts with or without SRO's, whether or not there are evidence-based models for SRO's, what other aspects of education are missing (literacy, addressing trauma, developing relationships with students, etc.).
- There may be elements of "successful" SRO programs that could be reinforced in training such as strong collaboration, team approach, interagency agreements, etc.
- Although positive connections occur between students and SRO's and there are some places where it is an effective practice, the positives do not outweigh the negative impacts on student of color and with disabilities. The fact that we can point to one example where it works is not the issue- it should be determined by the research which is clear- no convincing evidence that it increases safety, but there is evidence that they produce harm. We should land with the research.
- There is no perfect solution. SROs can work but also can present some significant issues.
- Discussion about how the use and practices of SROs will change if Assembly Bill 330 passes in the senate.

How does everything we've learned tell you about how SRO's impact school safety?

- This committee has a perspective of mental health, but in general society thinks of SRO's as a public safety measure to prevent mass shooting or similar situations.
- Some committee members would like to see school funding used for personnel who support student mental health instead of SRO's.

What is your perspective on the impact on BIPOC and/or students with disabilities? What are the equity issues?

- With students with disabilities, it is quicker to call in an SRO vs. looking at or following a behavior intervention plan.
- Research has shown a negative impact on students of color on disciplinary referrals, exclusionary discipline, increased disorderly conduct charges, increased arrests. Criminalizing students instead of providing support.
- Families of children with disabilities and mental health concerns may need outreach and education about the role difference between mental health providers and school SRO. Families working with SROs may not totally understand the role of the SRO.

4: Discussion and Next Steps

- Suggestions for additional information:
 - o Hear from parents/students with help from the committee to put that together- would parents/youth present together or separate?
 - o Would like to hear from representatives from the BIPOC community
 - o We may need a researcher to represent information about the positive impact of SRO's.
 - o Do we have data to correlate seclusion and restraint with SRO's?
- Idea for next steps timeline: Another panel or speaker in October and make a decision on recommendation to council and/or formulate the recommendation in December.
- There was discussion about what position the committee might take.

Resources that were shared:

- Assembly Bill 330 <https://fastdemocracy.com/bill-search/wi/2021/bills/WIB00009370/>
- Wisconsin seclusion and restraint data: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/topics/seclusion-restraint>

- “When Learning is Trauma” <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=J8jFaGbjhzM&feature=share>
- “From Failure to Freedom: Dismantling Milwaukee’s School-to-Prison Pipeline with the Youth Power Agenda” <https://populardemocracy.org/sites/default/files/FailureToFreedom.pdf>
- “Police in Schools: An Evidence-based Look at the Use of School Resource Officers:” <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9780429243905/police-schools-linda-duxbury-craig-bennell>
- “Reject” A documentary film about tolerance, acceptance, and inclusion <http://rejectfilm.com/>
- Lives in the Balance: “The Kids We Lose” movie <https://livesinthebalance.org/advocacy/public-awareness/>
- Lives in the Balance: Research <https://livesinthebalance.org/research/>
- Lives in the Balance: Virtual Trainings <https://livesinthebalance.org/workshops-and-trainings/>
- Lives in the Balance Here Bill of Rights for children <https://livesinthebalance.org/advocacy/bill-of-rights/>
- Lives in the Balance: Ending the use of Seclusion and Restraint <https://truecrisisprevention.org/>

5: Summary of Action Items + October 7, 2021 Meeting Agenda

- Committee members should look over links and resources
- Committee members will send ideas to the chairs for the next meeting.

6: Adjourn

Jason Cram made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Philip Robinson seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by: Monique Larson Hicks on 8/5/2021.

These minutes are in final form. They were presented for approval by the governmental body on: 10/7/2021