

# **Juvenile Justice Reform Council (JJRC)**

## **Minutes**

**December 17, 2019**  
**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**House Judiciary Committee Room 100**  
**House Office Building**  
**6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401**

---

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Sam Abed (Chair) began the meeting and members introduced themselves. The Chair briefly discussed the Department of Juveniles Services partnership with Baltimore City to develop diversion programs for juveniles.

### **2. Approval of 11/20/19 JJRC Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were reviewed and a few minor edits were made and approved.

### **3. Old Business**

- a. Regional Listening Sessions: Final review of the toolkit and schedule.

The Chair briefly provided an overview of the Regional Listening Sessions that had been held and gave the dates, times, and locations of the sessions planned in the upcoming weeks.

### **4. New Business**

- a. Proposed schedule and plans for future meetings in 2020.
  - i. Date: Third Thursday of each month, starting in April 2020.
  - ii. Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - iii. Location: Annapolis, MD (room subject to change upon availability).

The council agreed upon the dates and times for the meeting and decided to not hold JJRC meetings during the legislative session.

## 5. Presentation

- a. Technical Assistance (TA) Provider: Vera Institute for Justice.

Krista Lawson and Anton Robinson gave a presentation where they discussed the support Vera will provide to JJRC and how adolescent development is one of the core features informing system change. They also asked questions to understand which issue areas are “top of mind” for Council Members as we begin this process.

The members brought up the following topics they would like the council to address:

- Racial equity;
- Reducing population size by linking services with education and re-entry;
- Factors that lead to juvenile entering the system;
- Differences in case processing for adults versus juveniles;
- Workforce development;
- Interagency communication and matching the services to the youth’s needs;
- Using longitudinal data to identify former justice involved youth after the age of 18;
- Probation duration;
- Policy reforms;
- Diversion – police, courts, *etc.*;
- Strengthening youths and their families; and
- Quality of education.

The meeting was adjourned.