

Community Task Force

DRAFT List of Proposed Changes to System-Level Policies, Procedures

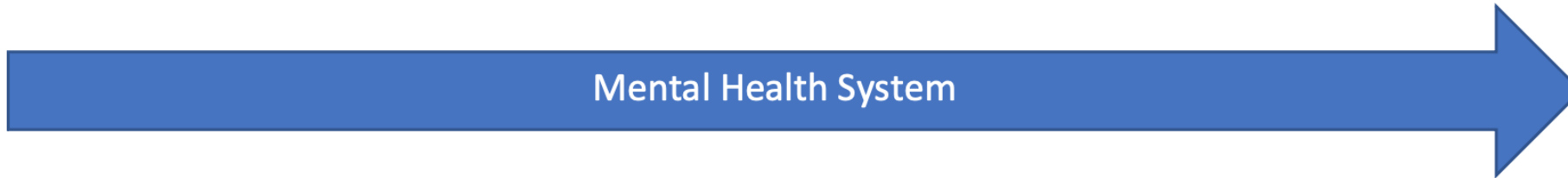
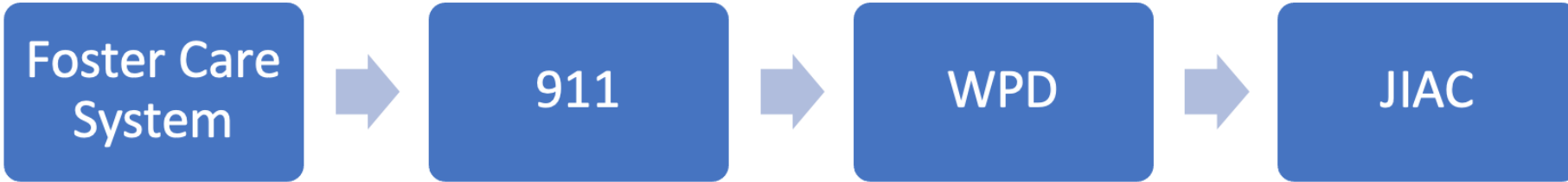
Purpose of the Task Force: To review and recommend preferred system improvements after the incident and death of Cedric Lofton

Goal of the Task Force: Develop recommendations for improvements and changes to the existing system standards and performance of Department of Children and Families (DCF), law enforcement, and youth corrections programs

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Timeline

March 28	Foster Care and 911 Recommendations
April 4	WPD and JIAC Recommendations
April 11	WPD, JIAC, 911 and Legislative Agenda Items
April 18	Review of DRAFT Recommendations
April 25	Final review of report



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Wichita Police Department Recommendations

- We support ...
 1. An eco-system that connects community resources, grassroots organizations, advocates, coaches, champions and others with DCF, Law Enforcement, COMCARE, JIAC and JDF and other systems that serve foster care children in a mental health crisis (*repeat from foster care system*)

Wichita Police Department Recommendations

- We recommend,
 2. The Wichita Police Department continually engage with cultural events in neighborhoods throughout the community, particularly those with people of color in order to improve trust between communities of color and law enforcement
- We support
 3. The outside review of the culture in the Wichita Police Department to determine the impact of recent reports of racist activities, as well as if/when it is acceptable to speak up if there is a difference of opinion between front-line officers and supervisors.
 4. Based on findings from the review, we would support changes that rebuild the culture to be more diverse, equitable and inclusive.

Wichita Police Department Recommendations

- We recommend
 5. Changes in Axon policies that require cameras continue to operate while law enforcement officers are working juvenile cases, including while during paperwork is complete
 6. Including a WPD representative on the local Crossover Youth Practice program

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- We support
 1. A change to SB 367, to allow for mental health to be a core service for the Department of Corrections, so it is not dependent on grant funds
 2. Strengthening the statewide Crossover Youth Practice model for children with involvement in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems to
 - Reduce youth placed in out-of-home care
 - Reduce the use of congregate care
 - Reduce the disproportionate representation of children of color
 - Reduce the number of youth crossing over and becoming dually involved

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- We recommend
 3. Requiring an MOU between the Wichita Police Department and JIAC that honors the 2016 US Attorney General Opinion, and clearly outlines expectations for youth brought to the facility, transfers, arrest reports, officer release form etc.
 4. Ensuring the arrest report – including initial call information – is present at the time a juvenile is released from WPD to JIAC
 5. Improving the process for local organizations to apply for crime prevention grants, including finding ways beyond evidence-based programs so community-based and culturally sensitive, gender and trauma-based programs can be included

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- At JIAC, we recommend
 6. Updating JIAC Policy 8.810 – Use of Force, so that it states:
 - Once youth is secured in a cell, instead of holding them down in the prone position close the cell and allow the youth to calm down
 - Do not allow 30 minutes for a youth to be held in the prone position
 - Do not use any position that covers the youth's chest
 - Only allow the prone position to be used to cuff and sit, cuff and stand

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- At JIAC, we recommend:
 7. Requiring one staff person be responsible for recording any incidents of restraint, keeping time to ensure a youth is not held down for longer than 3-5 minutes, and who will check to ensure youth is breathing. This person should never assist in restraining the youth. KJCC has a program that could be mirrored.
 8. Requiring a medical staff person to be available 24/7
 9. Update the Medical and Mental Health State Medical Intake Form 8.804 so it requires information to be current and accurate before the transfer

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- At JIAC, we recommend:
 10. Establishing a room at JIAC that could be safe for teens in a mental health crisis, where they can be safely left alone and not restrained. KDCC (state) made funds available last year and may have additional funding.
 11. Updating the **video recording system** at JIAC to **cover more areas** of the lobby and holding rooms and ensure that the recording system includes **audio** capacity

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- At JIAC, we recommend to change policy that would:
 12. Not allow a juvenile in a WRAP be brought into the JIAC facility
 13. Not allow a single JIAC worker to handle someone described as “a combative juvenile”
 14. Require law enforcement officers who bring an allegedly combative, noncompliant youth into the JIAC to stay on scene, or at least nearby, at the JIAC until the juvenile is processed.
 15. Ensure all juveniles at JIAC are separated from each other so they are not exposed to potentially traumatic

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- We recommend
 16. Implementing the Individual Justice Plan (IJP) in Sedgwick County
 17. Using Team Justice as a vehicle to gain community volunteers for Crossover Youth Practice Model
 18. Expanding the Kansas Department of Corrections Crossover Youth Model pilot program
 19. A long-term goal for the Department of Corrections to develop and implement a strategy that moves juvenile systems to restorative justice

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- We recommend:
 20. Creating and staffing a Citizens Review Board, to operate much like the same board for the Wichita Police Department
 21. Changes to the JIAC Investigation booklet (from April Terry):
 - Page 34: It was noted the JIAC did not have a defibrillator; perhaps the detention side did, but the intake side did not. I think this needs addressed.
 - Page 49: There are clear signs of lack of training—comments included observing no “physical” distress but no mention or awareness of mental distress. To also state that physical restraints are okay “until a juvenile relaxes” is traumatic and problematic. I’d like to visit this language.

Youth Corrections Recommendations

- We recommend
 22. The state Legislature review opportunities to modify the Stand Your Ground Law while being mindful in how those modifications will impact those who are covered by the law in other circumstances.

Mental Health Recommendations

- Develop and implement a crisis response model that does not include law enforcement, using findings from the Youth Mobile Response Services report, as well as the CAHOOTS program in Eugene, Oregon. CAHOOTS stands for Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets. <https://www.eugene-or.gov/4508/CAHOOTS>
 - Their program has operated for nearly 30 years and have found their program diverts 5-8% of calls from police. Their response teams are a primary responder for many of their calls, but they also have the option of being used in a co-response with law enforcement or being summoned by law enforcement to a call if the officers deem the CAHOOTS team is better suited to respond.
 - Eugene, Oregon has a population of about 170,000 and has a model that uses two continuously overlapping van teams (two-person teams consisting of a medic (a nurse, paramedic, or EMT) and a crisis worker who has substantial training and experience in the mental health field). One van is staffed 24 hours per day and a second van runs 12 hours per day.
 - I believe Wichita could implement a similar service, perhaps sized up to offer 3 or 4 overlapping van teams rather than 2.

Mental Health Recommendations

- We support
 - Support Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition legislative agenda to increase the number of mental health professionals in Sedgwick County
 - Increased funding for COMCARE, ICT One, 911 resources
 - An agreement between DCF, its contractual agencies and foster families that outlines how to take a child in their care to a mental health facility if the child is in crisis
 - **Remote/virtual access** to mental health consults at JIAC

Training Recommendations

- Develop and implement standardized training for law enforcement, JIAC and JDF personnel, to include topics on mental health first aid, adolescent brain development, and de-stigmatization of mental health. *(repeat from foster care system)*
- Increase the number of police officers, including supervisors, who have Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training
 - Require CIT training for new recruits at the Law Enforcement Training Center (expand resources)
 - Require CIT training for law enforcement supervisors
 - Require CIT training for JIAC and JDF personnel
- Establish ongoing culture training – in response to cultural diversity in the community police officers are serving and the PTSD many people of color experience when interacting with law enforcement
- Require implicit bias training and testing for Wichita Police Department officers, supervisors

Training Recommendations

- Offer additional training for law enforcement officers regarding when and under what circumstances a person can and should be taken to Ascension Via Christi St. Joseph, as opposed to JIAC

RELATED recommendations

(From April Terry)

- Policy 906: Use-of-force
 - Cd: “...committing suicide” should be reworded to “To prevent someone from dying by suicide...”
- Policy 305: Juvenile Interrogations
 - Why is the age determined to be 14 for not having an adult present during a juvenile interrogation?
 - 2c1: Why give 30 minutes to the JDF before LEOs present for questioning? This is not enough time to secure an adult to be present with a youth under 14 years-of-age.

RELATED recommendations

(From April Terry)

- Policy 508: Child in Need of Care
 - 2c: Big picture: Why should a neglected child be detained at the JIAC? Surely there are better means for handling a “neglected” child and an “offending” child.
 - 4abcd: Reword these; specifically, “Have you had to perform...” “Have you or anyone else advertised.....?” I am suggesting changing the language on the sex trafficking questions here as they are narrow and can restrict gathering the information I believe they intend to seek.