

SACJJDP/JJSC Use of Force Workgroup 2016

Preliminary Draft of Project

The State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP), California's State Advisory Group (SAG), serves as a standing committee of the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). The SACJJDP is tasked with participating in the development and review of the State's Three-Year juvenile justice plan, reviewing federal pass-through grant applications, providing recommendations regarding the State's compliance with the four core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), and reviewing the progress of projects funded under the State's Three-Year juvenile justice plan. http://www.bscc.ca.gov/s_sacjjdp.php

SACJJDP has been prominent in its efforts to transform juvenile justice toward:

- Reduced reliance on juvenile confinement;
- Increased use of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP), strategies, and interventions; and
- Reducing racial and ethnic disparities and disproportionality (R.E.D.) within the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Justice Standing Committee (JJSC) is another standing committee of the BSCC. The joint SACJJDP/JJSC Use of Force Workgroup was established to provide information to counties on use of force. The Use of Force workgroup held their first two meetings on May 13, 2016 and August 10, 2016 and discussed the possibility of using a Research to Practice Listening Sessions Model.

It is understood that any such proposal by the Use of Force Workgroup would require collaboration with multiple stakeholders. All of the work on this project is contingent upon an evaluation of workload impact.

Here are some preliminary ideas on what a Use of Force Research to Practice Model might include:

Goal: Provide counties with information and recommendations as to best practices around use of force in juvenile facilities

The Use of Force Workgroup would like to research national best practices, understand types of use of force, and collaborate with CPOC to create a county use of force survey and collect aggregate data. They would also like to conduct Listening Sessions that would involve interviewing youth and custodial/mental health staff to discuss use of force. Then, they would like to analyze and compile the data and information collected with CPOC to develop recommendations on best practices.

Result: Whitepaper on Use of Force in Juvenile Institutions

A similar model was previously used by the Discipline Disparities Research to Practice Collaborative established in 2014. With support from Atlantic Philanthropies and the Open Society Foundation, the Collaborative published a series of white papers providing recommendations for eliminating disparities in school discipline. <http://www.indiana.edu/~atlantic/briefing-papers/>