

STATE OF COLORADO



The Colorado Restorative Justice Council engages communities to create lifelong cultures of respect and responsibility.

Matt Riede, Chair, 1st Judicial District Victim Advocate— present
Alice Price, Practitioner, Vice Chair— present
Spiro Koinis, Division of Youth Corrections Victim and Restorative Justice Services Coordinator (Past Chair)—present
Greg Brown, Chief Probation Officer, Twentieth Judicial District (Executive Committee)— present
Melissa Westover, Practitioner/CCRJ Director (Executive Committee)—present
Meg Williams, Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, Manager – not present
Robb Miller, Deputy District Attorney, Nineteenth Judicial District- present
Mary Mc Ghee, Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance Board Member— present
Robin Singer, Colorado Department of Education—present PHONE
Stacy Davis, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Council— not present
Rebecca Oaks, Adult Parole Board—present PHONE
Pat Kelly, Juvenile Parole Board— not present
Monica Chambers, Department of Corrections—present PHONE
Lynn Lee , Practitioner Pikes Peak Restorative Justice Council — not present
Martin Gonzales, Judge, 12th Judicial District— not present
Elizabeth Porter-Merrill, Public Defender State of Colorado—present
Benito Garcia, Chief of Police Milliken, CO- present
Luke Yoder, Executive Director Center for Restorative Programs, CCRJ Director- present
Facilitation by: Deb Witzel (RJ Coordinator SCAO)
Minutes taken by: Deb
Guests- Chris Dinnan, Mona Trembath, Joanne Esch, Dana Vaughn-Kivenge,

RJ COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

February 24th 2017, 9a-3p

Jefferson County Courts Building, 100 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden CO 80401
Lookout Mountain Dining/Conference Room

1. 9:45a Quorum established (due to technical difficulty with phones)

Welcome and Introductions- Matt

Additions: none

2. Joanne Esch- Proposed Research project for Ph.D. (attached to prep materials)- 9:30a Council supports

- Researcher at CU studying Communication via Implementation Science- identify driver and barriers to communications in RJ field- evaluation of
- Funded through May 2018
 - Wants to do interviews and be complete by Dec 2017
- Proposal research driver and barriers to communication in RJ implementation could help amplify and clarify successful implementation of RJ and better identify useful data collection
 - Resources needed
 1. Access to all RJ Council members for interviews
 - Connect with others in field
 - Address contextual protocols
 - CCRJD
 2. RJ Council willing to do interviews and connect Joanne with others to interview
 3. RJ Council supports- Sub-committee or liaison-who?

3. Update on NIJ grant project- Shannon Sliva, Greg Brown (communications to RJ statewide and how to refer if not DOC, DYC or Probation)

- Dana spoke to her role at COVA- she will be working with the people/survivors who choose not to participate in the HRVOD but want to participate in the study- Mary wants to make sure Dana does not use the word treatment when educating people about the project- participants and non-participants would be preferred language
 - Victim Services Providers will receive education
 - Spiro, Greg and Monica will be working with the people/ survivors who WILL participate in the HRVOD
 - HRVOD curriculum development is moving along to pilot a training with 5 people who have been trained and 5 people who have never been trained to get feedback and finalize the curriculum
 - Combined all available curriculums
 - Breaking into pre-work, face to face work and post training elements and then coaching and mentoring will be required for new trainers
 - June is the target date to pilot the training
 - A community of practice will follow
 - The research project is 3-4 years
 - Mary, Melissa and Liz just completed Lynn's training and all felt it was excellent
 - Advanced facilitator training
 - Chris Dinnan asked about how to get engaged as an independent facilitator- he wants to participate as a facilitator in this study- Spiro and Monica will connect. Chris has done Jon Wilson's training and facilitated HRVOD
4. RJ COUNCIL Business:
- Adopt December minutes- attached – vote- Matt -unanimously approved
- Executive Committee**
- Rotations –Matt
 - FY 17- Matt Chair, Alice VC, Greg Treasurer, Spiro Past Chair, Melissa Practitioner
 - Desire to have chair/VC oscillate between agency/practitioner
 - 5th seat would be filled by a practitioner regularly
 - Bylaws- Alice-attached – Sent out for first reading- vote will take place after feedback
 - A final vote will be taken at the April 28th meeting
 - **Practitioner Applications and Process- Melissa- (executive session) LUNCH vote**
 - **Alice called Exec Session at 12:15 relative to this piece (guests left the room)**
 - **Recommendations to SCAO**
 - **The council came out of executive session at 1:21pm**
 - **The sub-committee forwarded in rank order Jen Gallegos and Chris Dinnan**
 - **By majority vote the RJ Council accepted the sub-committee recommendation**
 - **These names will be forwarded to the SCA**
 - The new member term runs from start through Dec 2018. (The vacancy term)
 - RJ Coordinator Position Analysis relative to Strategic Plan and “Operations Manual” (2016 retreat action item)
 - Policy/Procedure for handling Grievances-Matt, Mary and Alice will revisit
 - Internal- policy to address grievance that come to the RJ Council that does not involve RJ Council members- If we receive a grievance from the broader field about a practitioner or program the RJ Council has no jurisdiction or authority to handle it. RJ Council may refer to resources to address but not address directly. This needs refinement and the sub-committee will address the language to clearly state the this is not a “policy” but an operating guideline for the RJ Council and that no outside grievance will be addressed by the council
 - How to handle when an RJ Directory member says they DO but in practice DO NOT abide by Standards?
 - Relative to the RJ Directory- if they say yes we have no jurisdiction or authority to control
 - Add language to the RJ Directory- DISCLAIMER * RJ Council is NOT a regulatory body. All info contained in the directory is self-reported and the RJ Council does not attest to the accuracy of the info. LINK TO STANDARDS. Consumers are encouraged to review the Standards to understand expectations in identifying and selecting a practitioner that will meet your needs.
5. **Budget and Funds- Greg & Deb**
- FY '17- updates
 - Spending Authority Supplemental was approved by the JBC for approximately \$1 mil
 - SCAO Budget manager resigned so no updated information on the RJ Cash Fund at this time

- Spending is approximately at the half way mark for FY
- Prosecution & Defense RJ Support Proposal redraft – Liz
 - Liz presented a draft proposal for Education Initiative for Defense and Prosecutors
 - Greg this is aligned with the charges of the RJ Council
 - Alice moves council adopts in principle to proposal that would be coordinated with RJ Council and FY 18 \$ up to \$100k and ask the agencies to come back to the RJ council with specific budget and timetables at the next meeting- more detail for further consideration- Melissa 2nd – further discussion- Greg will meet with SCAO to determine process for this before April 28 (materials by April 19th) Vote- -
- FY '18- Spending Authority was approved by the JBC for approximately \$1 mil
- FY '19- Deb needs more clarity on actual dollar amounts and categories

2017

- Meeting Calendar attached
- 2017 Action Plan Draft attached- all RJ Council members will send committee commitment to Deb by March 13th.
- Volunteers will also let Deb know

6. Funded Programs, Data Collection & Evaluation – Meg Chair (Committee Members- Rebecca Oaks, Mary Mc Ghee, Melissa Westover, Spiro Koinis)

- Funded Programs
 - Database- Ana Nunes Omni- 10a
 - Updates on the database and evaluation- moving forward looking at the data
 - Moving away from ETO but still confident in the data accuracy
 - Data entry errors still challenging due to criteria clarification and technical challenges
 - RJ difficult to track in a linear system
 - Luke affirmed Ana's report and commended relationship with Omni and Funded programs
 - Luke brought concerns that the original Pilot have concerns that are reflected in a memo from the 3 remaining projects. The Exec Committee will review and address.
 - The intention of the memo is to start the conversation with the RJ Council
 - **Prepare for 2017 Funding Requests**
 - Schedule-
 - Close end of March
 - Select By April 14 at the latest
 - Contract by June 30

7. Training And Resource Development- Greg Chair- (Committee Members- Pat Kelly, Martin Gonzales?, Luke Yoder, Monica Chambers)

- Conferences
- HRVOD Curriculum
- 5 Regional Trainings- Deb
 - Out of state people want to attend- Yes? No?
- Webinar- Feb 23rd

8. Education and Awareness – External- Spiro Chair- (Committee Members- Lynn Lee, Pat Kelly, Robb Miller, Benito Garcia?, Robin Singer? Stacy Davis?) Consider merging with the above committee as they appear to overlap- Council says yes merge them.

- **Education Initiatives**
 - DAs
 - Defense Bar
 - Probation
 - Judges
 - Law Enforcement
 - Victim Services

- Schools Communities
- 9. **Communications and 2017 Legislative Watch - Alice Chair (Committee Members- Liz Porter-Merrill, Melissa Westover, Lynn Lee)**
 - Sunset /Renewal
 - Laid over in the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs-
 - Move to Title 13 – Michael Doehr (bill writer) and Rep Lee will work on this
 - Rep Arndt -reimbursement provision- passed unanimously out of committee
 - Communications
 - Confidentiality – deleted
 - Pre-trial/Plea
 - DA may consent Pleas
 - Probation indicate in offender meets minimum eligibility requirements in a PSIR- no fiscal note
 - Lessons Learned
 - Discovered that there are challenges in who can provide information and advocate- political realities and challenges in relationship between judicial and legislature
 - What seemed like a consensus process within the RJ Council and the broader stakeholder group was in fact not reached although it appeared there were in place.
 - DYC and CDAC gave last minute changes that substantially changed the proposed bill and there was not enough time to work together to come to consensus
 - Rep Lee was not ok with the counter proposed language so he decided to cut it
 - Divergence in practices and expectations between systems based work and community based programs and practices create very significant barriers
 - Too many amendments which made the proposed confidentiality language worse than what is already in statute
 - Core issue- prior acts unrelated to the referred offense and the possibility of future acts should be reported
 - Hard to come to compromises for all stakeholders acknowledging everyone’s needs but at the end
 - Who gets to frame RJ in CO?
 - Legislation is not the way forward at this time. Education and data sharing is the way.

Mission:

The State Restorative Justice Council advances restorative justice principles and practices throughout Colorado by providing *gateways* to information, networking and support.